CRIME + JUSTICE #9 CDC 9/52

Cover MORALES SMOAKS

IFC " ★ ALA & ROBBINS

" ★

ALBERT TYLER ★ (+ FRACCO?

GIORDANO ★

NOTE SMOAKS ON PG. 2 ~~MOST~~ NAMES ARE LOWERSHOP!!

B. SMITH, L. MORALES, A. TYLER, R GIORDANO

then - H FROMM, C. MARTIN, R HARRIS, M.

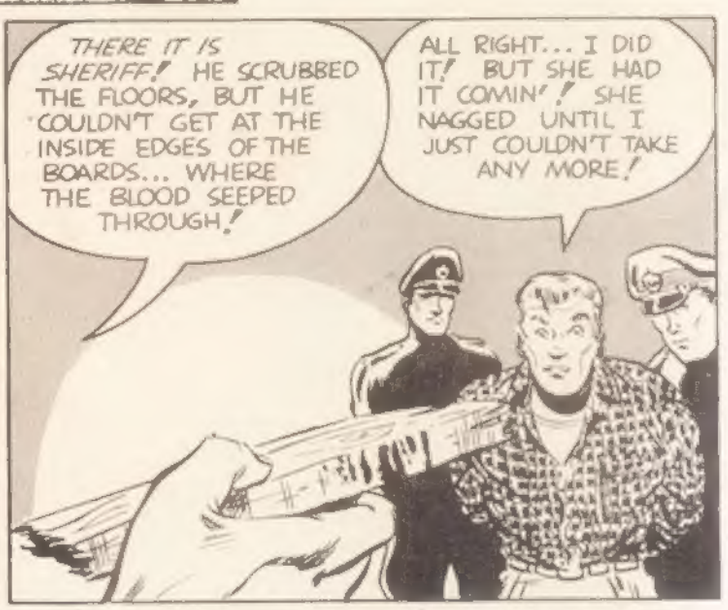
OVER BELL ★ / TINKLE-

FROLLO ★ MAN

CRIME AND JUSTICE
CRIME
and JUSTICE
10¢
NO 9
POLICE

CRIME CLUES

"The Bloodstain"


THERE IT IS SHERIFF! HE SCRUBBED THE FLOORS, BUT HE COULDN'T GET AT THE INSIDE EDGES OF THE BOARDS... WHERE THE BLOOD SEEPED THROUGH!
ALL RIGHT... I DID IT! BUT SHE HAD IT COMIN'! SHE NAGGED UNTIL I JUST COULDN'T TAKE ANY MORE!

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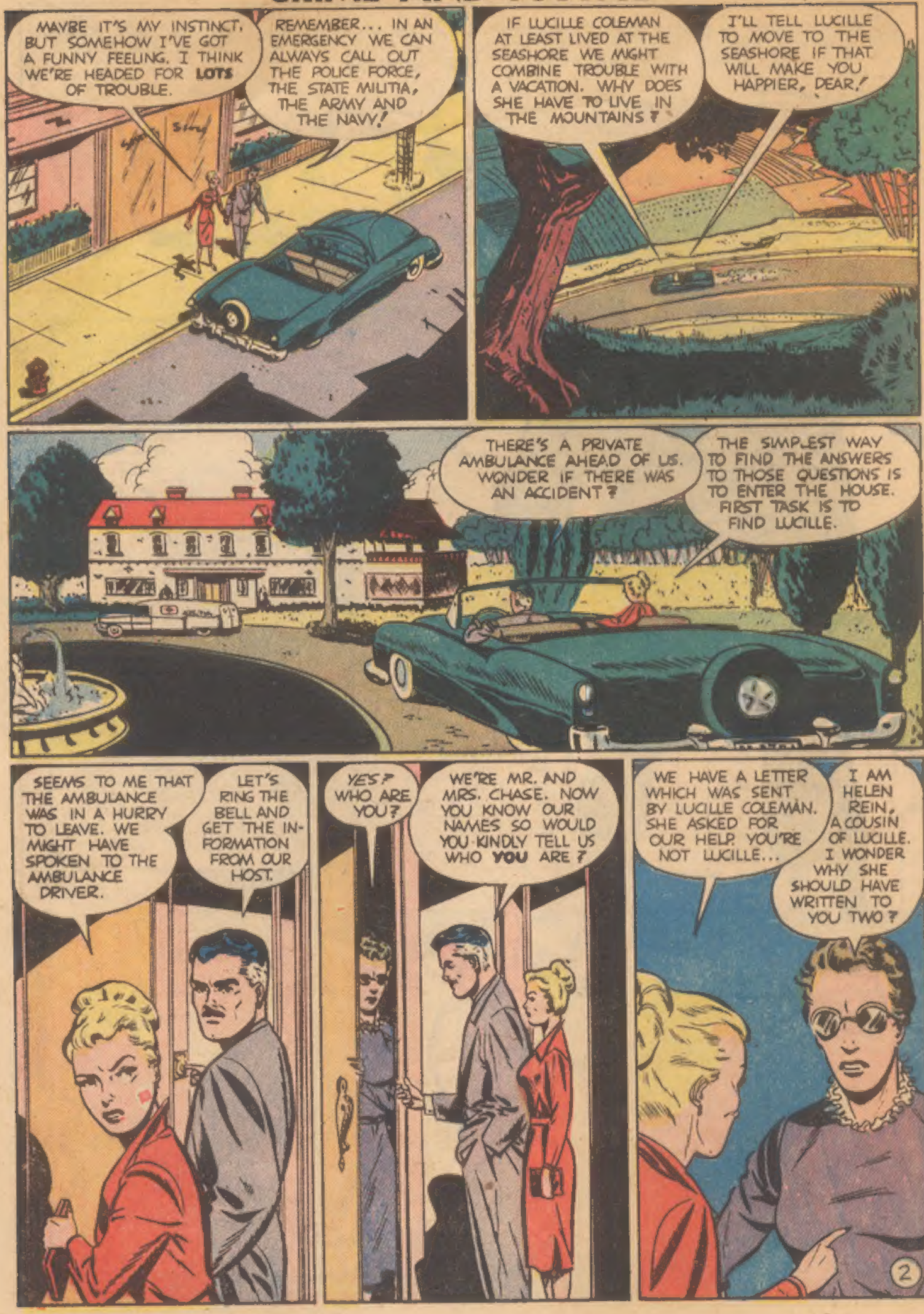
Alfred V. Fago, Editor

WHERE DANGER, MURDER AND EXCITEMENT IS, THERE YOU WILL FIND MR. AND MRS. CHASE. ADD TO IT AN INSANE ASYLUM AND A FORTUNE AT STAKE AND YOU HAVE A MYSTERY THAT WILL BAFFLE EVEN YOU! SO... COME ALONG ON...
THE CHASE!
THAT STRAIGHT JACKET FITS YOU PERFECTLY. TOO BAD YOU HAD TO GO AROUND IMPERSONATING CURTIS CHASE!
I DON'T LIKE THE WAY YOU'RE WRINKLING YOUR FOREHEAD, MERRY. SOMETHING DISTURBING YOU?
I NEVER WAS GOOD AT CONCEALING MY THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS. IN THIS CASE, MR. CHASE, I NEED YOUR ADVICE.
YOU REMEMBER LUCILLE COLEMAN? WE MET HER FOUR YEARS AGO IN FLORIDA. SHE THINKS HER UNCLE IS TRYING TO PUT HER INTO AN INSANE ASYLUM TO GAIN CONTROL OF HER FORTUNE. WANTS US TO HELP. SHE SAYS IT'S URGENT.
JUST WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO SUGGEST WE SPEND A WEEK-END AT THE SEA-SHORE! WELL... THE CHASES TO THE RESCUE!
LOU MORALES

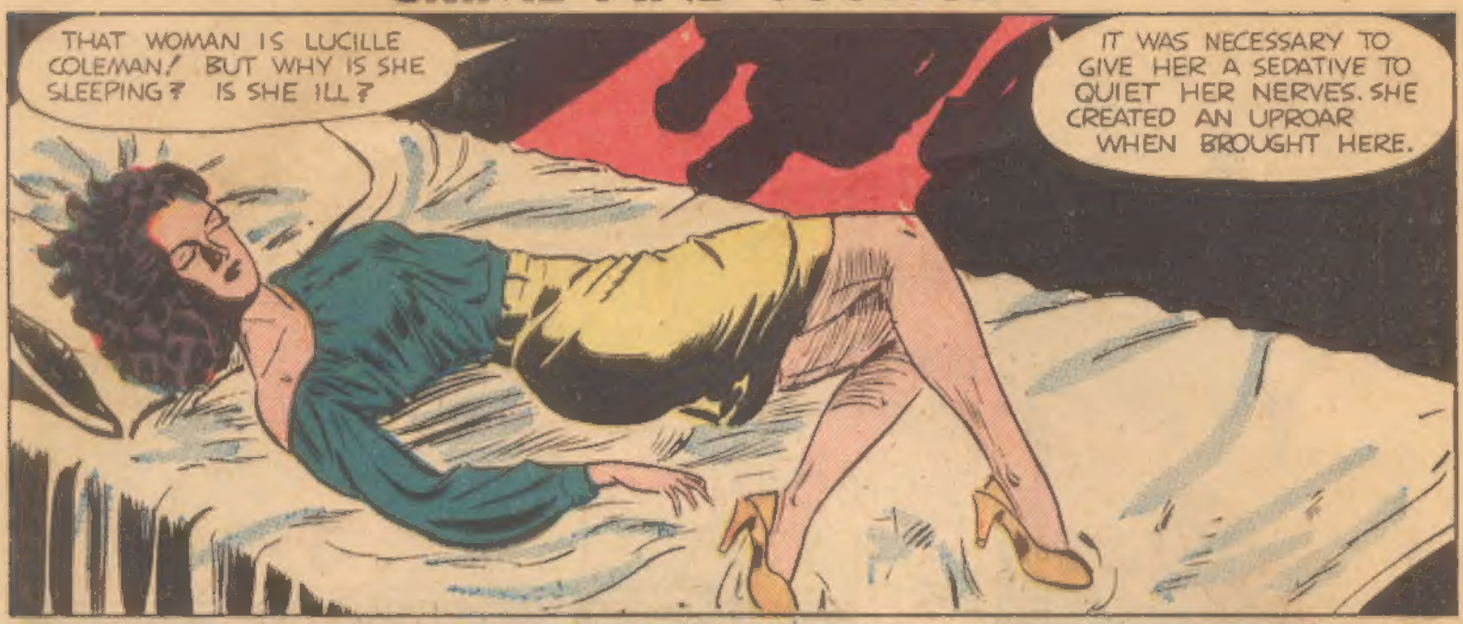

MAYBE IT'S MY INSTINCT, BUT SOMEHOW I'VE GOT A FUNNY FEELING. I THINK WE'RE HEADED FOR LOTS OF TROUBLE.
REMEMBER... IN AN EMERGENCY WE CAN ALWAYS CALL OUT THE POLICE FORCE, THE STATE MILITIA, THE ARMY AND THE NAVY!
IF LUCILLE COLEMAN AT LEAST LIVED AT THE SEASHORE WE MIGHT COMBINE TROUBLE WITH A VACATION. WHY DOES SHE HAVE TO LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS?
I'LL TELL LUCILLE TO MOVE TO THE SEASHORE IF THAT WILL MAKE YOU HAPPIER, DEAR!
THERE'S A PRIVATE AMBULANCE AHEAD OF US. WONDER IF THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT?
THE SIMPLEST WAY TO FIND THE ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS IS TO ENTER THE HOUSE. FIRST TASK IS TO FIND LUCILLE.
SEEMS TO ME THAT THE AMBULANCE WAS IN A HURRY TO LEAVE. WE MIGHT HAVE SPOKEN TO THE AMBULANCE DRIVER.
LET'S RING THE BELL AND GET THE INFORMATION FROM OUR HOST.
YES? WHO ARE YOU?
WE'RE MR. AND MRS. CHASE. NOW YOU KNOW OUR NAMES SO WOULD YOU KINDLY TELL US WHO YOU ARE?
WE HAVE A LETTER WHICH WAS SENT BY LUCILLE COLEMAN. SHE ASKED FOR OUR HELP. YOU'RE NOT LUCILLE...
I AM HELEN REIN, A COUSIN OF LUCILLE. I WONDER WHY SHE SHOULD HAVE WRITTEN TO YOU TWO?
2

CRIME AND JUSTICE

AS SOON AS I SEE LUCILLE WE CAN FIND OUT JUST WHAT'S WRONG. SHE THINKS HER UNCLE IS TRYING TO PUT HER INTO AN INSANE ASYLUM.
SO THAT'S WHAT SHE WROTE TO YOU? AND YOU BOTH WANT TO HELP HER. I DIDN'T KNOW SHE HAD FRIENDS WHO CARED ABOUT HER THAT MUCH.
COME WITH ME, CURTIS. SOMETHING IS WRONG IN THIS HOUSE... I CAN SENSE IT. MISS REIN IS ACTING VERY STRANGELY.
I AGREE WITH YOU, MY DEAR. SHE'S CERTAINLY NOT OVERJOYED WITH OUR PRESENCE.
THERE'S BEEN A STRUGGLE HERE. WHERE IS LUCILLE? DID ANYTHING HAPPEN TO HER?
WE SHOULD HAVE STOPPED THAT AMBULANCE. I BET THEY JUST TOOK HER AWAY.
I KNOW YOU WANT TO HELP... THOSE MEN FORCED THEIR WAY IN HERE... THREATENED TO KILL ME IF I SPOKE. I THINK MY UNCLE IS BEHIND ALL THIS.
THEN LUCILLE KNEW WHAT SHE WAS WRITING IN THAT LETTER. WE MUST DO EVERYTHING TO HELP HER. FIRST... THAT AMBULANCE!
HELEN REIN LOOKS AS THOUGH SHE'S SUFFERING FROM SHOCK. SHE SAID SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT IN ABOUT HALF AN HOUR.
WE'LL LOOK UP THE WILLIAMS AMBULANCE SERVICE IN A PHONE BOOK.
I SEE A SPOT WHERE WE CAN PARK. I WISH WE'D TAKEN HELEN REIN ALONG WITH US.
WE SHOULD GET THE ANSWER TO WHAT HAPPENED TO LUCILLE RIGHT IN THIS PLACE.
LLIAMS
NBULANCE
SERVICE
3

WE'D LIKE TO KNOW WHO HIRED ONE OF YOUR AMBULANCES TO GO TO THE COLEMAN HOUSE... AND WHERE YOU TOOK MISS COLEMAN?
I DON'T THINK I CAN GIVE YOU THAT INFORMATION UNLESS YOU'RE FROM THE POLICE.
HEH, BUT A FUNNY THING ABOUT THE PERSON WHO HIRED THAT AMBULANCE WAS THAT...
LOOK OUT, MERRY. DROP TO THE FLOOR!
BLAM
WE OUGHT TO CHASE THAT KILLER... HE MUST BE A MANIAC!
I THINK WE'D BETTER GO INSIDE AND SEE IF WE CAN HELP THE MAN WHO WAS SHOT.
CURTIS IMMEDIATELY CALLED HIS FRIEND, CAPTAIN MAX HAAS OF HOMICIDE...
...THEN YOU WILL BE RIGHT OVER! WE WON'T LEAVE THE PLACE UNTIL YOU COME. I'LL GIVE YOU ALL THE FACTS WE KNOW ABOUT THE KILLING.
HE'S DEAD! WHY SHOULD ANYONE WANT TO KILL MR. HAMPTON? HE WAS ONE OF THE FINEST MEN I EVER KNEW.
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THE KILLER WAS SCARED AND SHOT MR. HAMPTON TO PREVENT HIM FROM TALKING.
I'M CERTAIN THAT WHOEVER PLANNED TAKING LUCILLE AWAY NEVER FIGURED WE WOULD GET INTO THE SITUATION. THAT UNCLE OF HERS MUST BE A PRETTY DESPERATE CHARACTER!
I WANT TO KNOW TWO IMPORTANT FACTS. FIRST, WHO WENT TO THE COLEMAN HOUSE... AND SECOND, WHERE WAS THE GIRL TAKEN?
I WENT TO THE COLEMAN HOUSE. I TOOK THE GIRL TO DR. WILBERT WOLF'S PRIVATE ASYLUM IN CRESTWOOD.
WILLIAMS AMBULANCE SERVICE
4

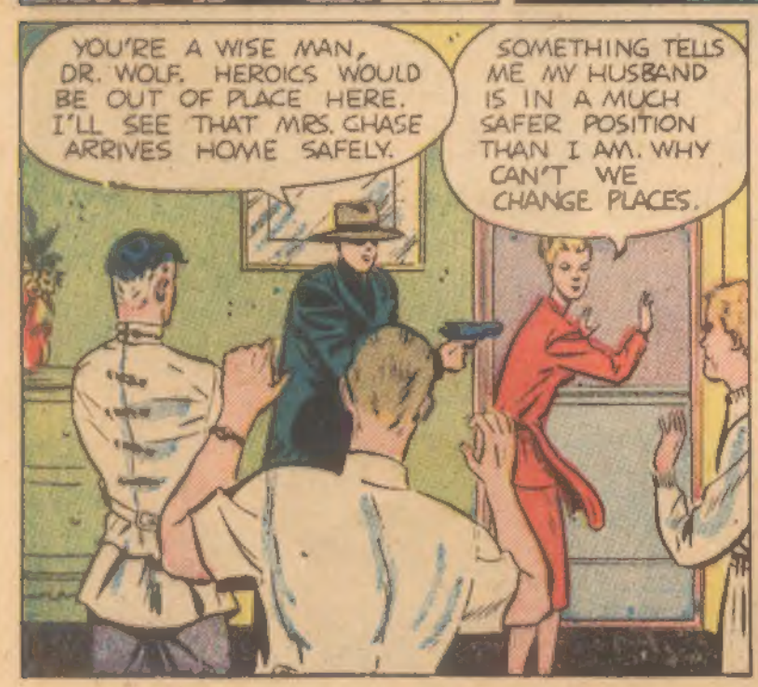
WE'LL DRIVE UP TO DR. WOLF'S PLACE, CAPTAIN. WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO DO IT IN ABOUT AN HOUR.
YOU TWO BE CAREFUL. REMEMBER, THERE'S A KILLER LOOSE.
LOOKS RATHER EXCLUSIVE. I BET THEY'RE CHOOSEY ABOUT THE PEOPLE THEY TAKE.
PERHAPS THE WINDOWS HAVE SILVER BARS... OR A PERSON HAS TO BE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO BE COMMITTED HERE.
WE'D LIKE TO SEE MISS LUCILLE COLEMAN. SHE CAME HERE EARLIER IN THE DAY.
I THINK YOU'RE MISTAKEN. WE HAVE NO PERSON HERE WITH THAT NAME. THERE IS ANOTHER PLACE TWO MILES WEST OF CENTERPORT... YOU MIGHT TRY THERE.
YOU CAN'T SEE DR. WOLF WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT! I TOLD YOU WE HAVE NO MISS COLEMAN HERE!
CURTIS, I THINK IT BEST TO IGNORE THE EXISTENCE OF THAT NURSE. WE'LL SEE THE DIRECTOR.
I ASSURE YOU THAT WE WILL HAVE THE POLICE HERE WITHIN AN HOUR UNLESS YOU SHOW US WHERE YOU'RE KEEPING MISS COLEMAN.
MY DEAR MR. AND MRS. CHASE, I RUN A HIGHLY RESPECTABLE INSTITUTION. THE ONLY PERSON COMMITTED HERE TODAY WAS A MRS. RUTH PETERSON.
PRIVATE DR. WOLF DIRECTOR
I'LL TAKE YOU TO MRS. PETERSON'S ROOM. IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SHE IS YOUR MISS COLEMAN.
SEEING IS BELIEVING, DR. WOLF. IN TWO MINUTES WE'LL HAVE THE ANSWER.
5


THAT WOMAN IS LUCILLE COLEMAN! BUT WHY IS SHE SLEEPING? IS SHE ILL?
IT WAS NECESSARY TO GIVE HER A SEDATIVE TO QUIET HER NERVES. SHE CREATED AN UPROAR WHEN BROUGHT HERE.

WHAT IS THIS? A SHOOTING GALLERY OR CHAMBER OF HORRORS? DR. WOLF, KINDLY TELL THAT FUGITIVE FROM A MASQUERADE PARTY TO PUT THE GUN AWAY.
THIS GUN IS LOADED AND UNLESS YOU DO WHAT I SAY THERE'LL BE TROUBLE.

YOU HAVE A MANIAC THERE. HE'S BEEN TELLING PEOPLE THAT HE'S MR. CHASE. HE'S A KILLER.
FUNNY; THE WAY HE EVEN FOOLED ME. I THOUGHT HE WAS MY HUSBAND, CURTIS. SOMEBODY OWES ME A NEW HUSBAND.

DR. WOLF, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME? YOU'RE HEAD OF THIS INSTITUTION. DON'T YOU GIVE THE ORDERS?
I WISH I COULD BE AS CALM AS YOU, MRS. CHASE. THAT GUN LOOKS DANGEROUS AND I HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO RESPECT IT.


YOU'RE A WISE MAN, DR. WOLF. HEROICS WOULD BE OUT OF PLACE HERE. I'LL SEE THAT MRS. CHASE ARRIVES HOME SAFELY.
SOMETHING TELLS ME MY HUSBAND IS IN A MUCH SAFER POSITION THAN I AM. WHY CAN'T WE CHANGE PLACES.

JUST KEEP QUIET AS WE GO OUT THE BACK WAY IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU.
IF I KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR ME, I WANT TO STAY RIGHT HERE. WISH I COULD DO ONE OF THOSE HINDU VANISHING ACTS RIGHT NOW.
632
FIRE EXIT

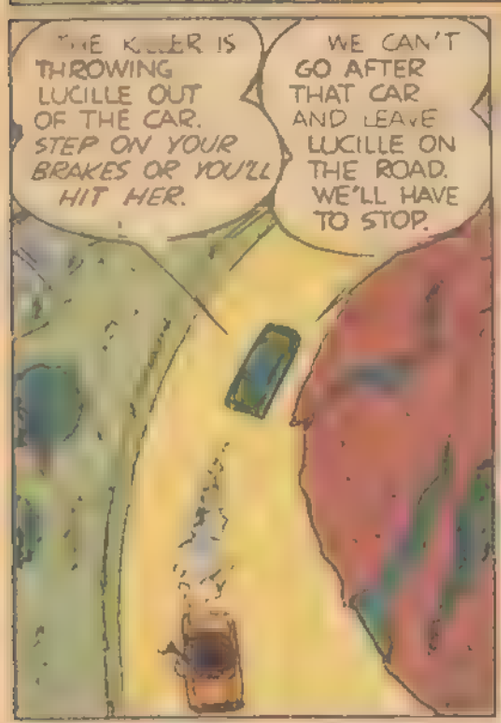
MERRY DECIDED TO FIGHT FOR HER FREEDOM, AND PERHAPS HER OWN LIFE.
GIVE ME THAT GUN!
LET GO OF ME YOU WILDCAT!
POW!
I HEARD YOU SHOUT FOR HELP! I SAW A MASKED MAN RUNNING AWAY AS I GOT HERE.
HE'S LOCKED DR. WOLF INSIDE A ROOM. SEE IF YOU CAN FIND THAT MASKED MAN. I'M GOING TO CALL THE POLICE.
SORRY, MRS. CHASE. I COULDN'T CATCH UP WITH THAT MASKED MAN. I WAS AFRAID TO SHOOT BECAUSE OF THE PEOPLE ON THE GROUNDS.
THE POLICE WILL BE HERE SOON. WE'LL LET THEM TAKE OVER.
WE ALMOST BURNED UP THE ROAD GETTING HERE. I SHOULD NEVER HAVE PERMITTED YOU TO COME HERE WITHOUT ME.
IN THE EXCITEMENT I ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT CURTIS. THE LAST TIME I SAW HIM HE WAS WEARING THE LATEST FASHION IN STRAIGHT JACKETS.
I ASSURE YOU, CAPTAIN HAAS, I HAD NO IDEA ABOUT WHAT WAS REALLY HAPPENING.
I'D LIKE TO BE ALONE WITH DR. WOLF FOR ABOUT TEN MINUTES. I COULD CHANGE THE COLOR OF HIS EYES WITHOUT AN OPERATION.
DR. WOLF DEFINITELY HAD BEEN FOOLED INTO TAKING LUCILLE INTO HIS ASYLUM.
YOU CAN SEE FROM THESE COMMITMENT PAPERS THAT THEY WERE SIGNED BY A MR. COLEMAN.
HE USED HIS RIGHT NAME BUT GAVE A FICTITIOUS NAME FOR LUCILLE. I WONDER WHY.

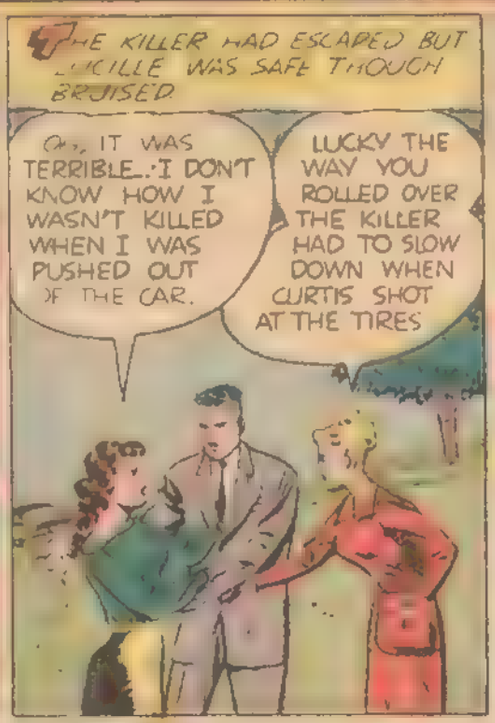
CRIME AND JUSTICE

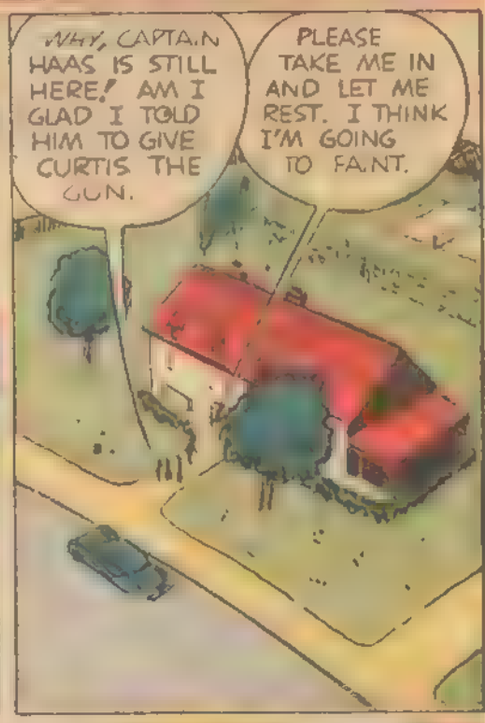
OF THE ASYLUM UNDER THE LAW AT PRESENT BECAUSE THOSE PAPERS ARE IN PERFECT ORDER.
DR. WOLF WILL TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER AND WE'LL
HOURS.
THAT'S THE THIRD RING... EITHER NO ONE IS HOME OR SOMETHING IS WRONG INSIDE.
I THINK I BETTER TAKE OVER I'LL HAVE THAT DOOR OPEN IN ONE MINUTE.
A COLEMAN
REMIND ME TO ASK SANTA CLAUS TO GET ME A BUNCH OF SKELETON KEYS FOR CHRISTMAS
WOULDN'T IT BE
THERE'S THE ANSWER AS TO WHY NO ONE ANSWERED THE DOOR BELL. GUESS HE WON'T BOTHER ANYONE AGAIN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GUESS AS TO HIS IDENTITY I SEE A NOTE ON THE DESK. MUST BE LUCILLE'S UNCLE.
THE NOTE SAYS HE PLANNED THE DEATH OF
TO GET HER FORTUNE YOU RUINED HIS PLANS AND SO HE KILLED HIMSELF. CASE SOLVED!
TO RELEASE
THAT MAKES A LOT OF SENSE. HE PLAYED FOR HIGH STAKES AND LOST.
I'LL CALL THE CORONER FOR THE CUSTOMARY CHECK UP AND I'LL MAKE OUT MY REPORT
FINISHED THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, MERRY AND CURTS.
SOMETHING BOTHERS ME ABOUT THIS CORPSE SOMETHING IS WRONG... AND FOR THE MOMENT, I CAN'T PUT MY FINGER ON IT

YOU BOTH SEEM TO FORGET THERE'S ANOTHER COUSIN IN THIS CASE. HELEN REIN. DID HER UNCLE TRY TO DO ANYTHING TO HER? AND WHERE IS SHE?
YOU HAVE SOMETHING THERE SHE CAN'T TO BE ABLE TO GIVE US SOME HELPFUL INFORMATION
SPECIAL ORDER RELEASING LUCILLE COLEMAN WITHIN HALF AN HOUR.
I JUST RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM CAPTAIN HAAS. THE RELEASE PAPERS ARE ON THEIR WAY SO I CAN RELEASE HER TO YOU NOW.
I WON'T FEEL SATISFIED UNTIL YOU TAKE ME TO LUCILLE'S ROOM
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE IS LUCILLE?
A MASKED MAN FORCED ME TO OPEN THE DOOR, THEN HIT ME ON THE HEAD
WE HAVE TO FIND THAT MASKED MAN.. LUCILLE IS IN THE HANDS OF A KILLER!
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY REPUTATION WHEN ALL THIS GETS INTO THE NEWSPAPERS?
WITH A GUN. A WOMAN IN THE CAR'S
PARKING LOT
COME ON, CURTIS! THE CHASE IS ON.. WITH THE CHASES.

THERE'S THE CAR, CURTIS. WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO CATCH IT
IT'S A LUCKY THING I HAVEN'T A WEAK HEART. ALL THIS EXCITEMENT WOULD HAVE GIVEN ME A STROKE.

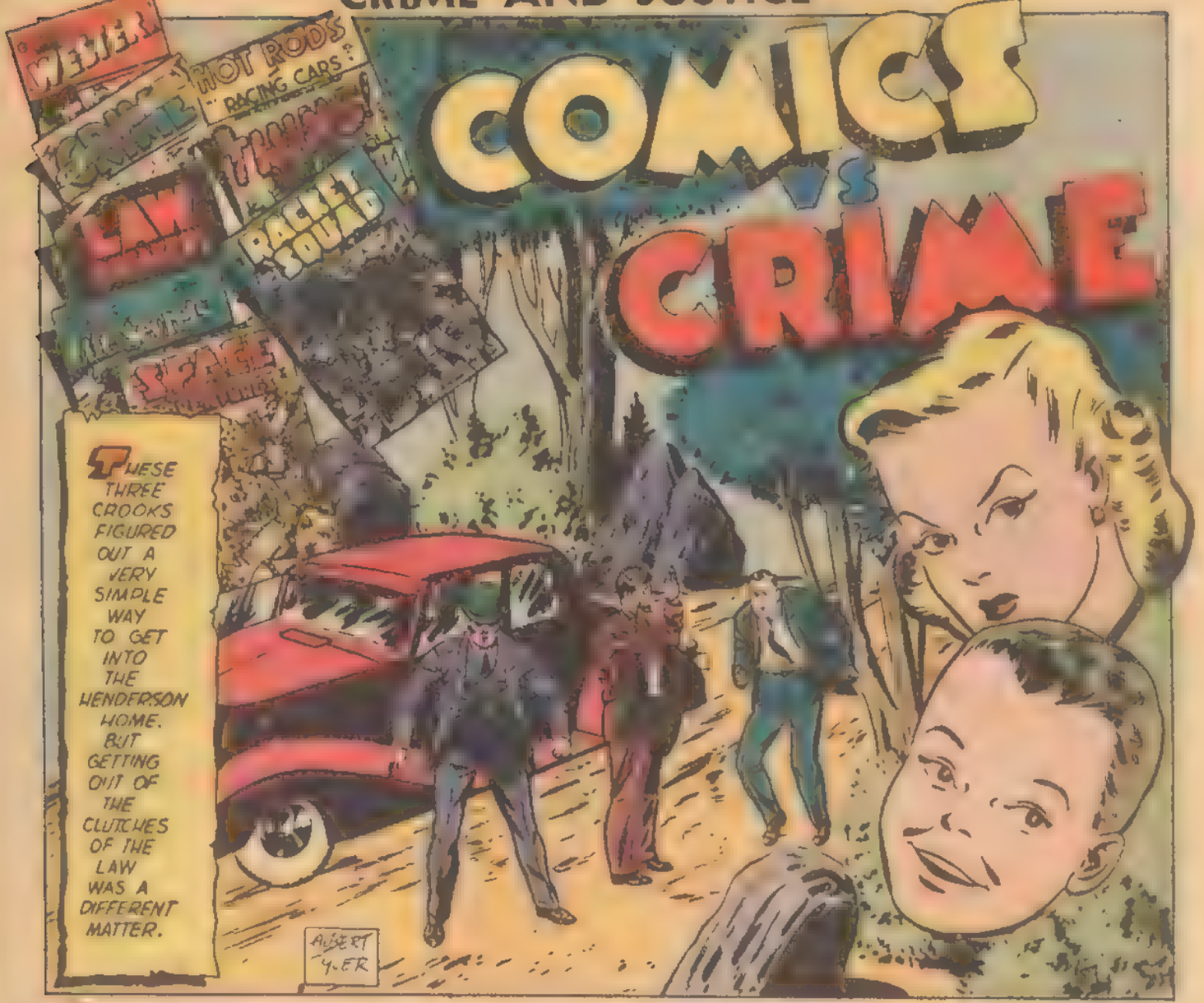

THE KILLER IS THROWING LUCILLE OUT OF THE CAR. STEP ON YOUR BRAKES OR YOU'LL HIT HER.
WE CAN'T GO AFTER THAT CAR AND LEAVE LUCILLE ON THE ROAD. WE'LL HAVE TO STOP.

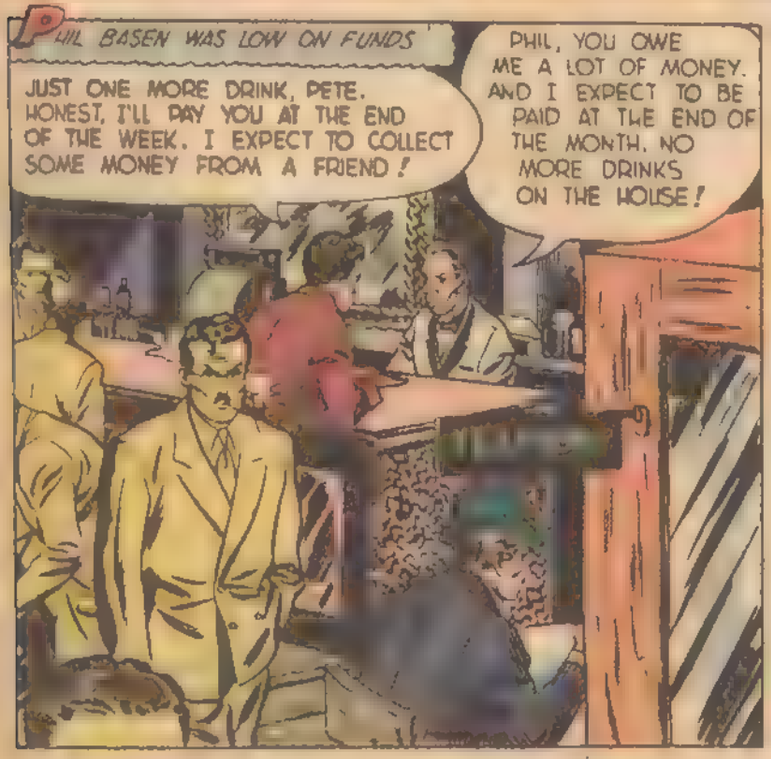

THE KILLER HAD ESCAPED BUT LUCILLE WAS SAFE THOUGH BRUISED
OH, IT WAS TERRIBLE..I DON'T KNOW HOW I WASN'T KILLED WHEN I WAS PUSHED OUT OF THE CAR.
LUCKY THE WAY YOU ROLLED OVER THE KILLER HAD TO SLOW DOWN WHEN CURTIS SHOT AT THE TIRES


WHY, CAPTAIN HAAS IS STILL HERE! AM I GLAD I TOLD HIM TO GIVE CURTIS THE GUN.
PLEASE TAKE ME IN AND LET ME REST. I THINK I'M GOING TO FAINT.

MY POOR LUCILLE...HOW SHE MUST HAVE SUFFERED!
YES .. YOU KILLER! YOU KILLED THE MAN AT THE AMBULANCE SERVICE AND MR. COLEMAN!

YOU PLANNED TO GET CONTROL OF THE ENTIRE FORTUNE! YOU HAVE A DUPLICATE SUIT LIKE THAT WORN BY MR. COLEMAN, BUT YOU WORE YOURS LIKE A WOMAN WOULD.. BUTTONED ON THE LEFT SIDE INSTEAD OF MAN FASHION ON THE RIGHT SIDE!
I WISH I HAD KILLED YOU BOTH!
READ THE NEXT CHASE ADVENTURE! MORE THRILLS... MORE MYSTERY! AND... LET US KNOW HOW YOU LIKE THE STORIES.


WEIRD
HOT RODS
RACING CARS
LAW
RACKET SQUAD
COMICS
CRIME
These three crooks figured out a very simple way to get into the Henderson home. But getting out of the clutches of the law was a different matter.
ALBERT "4-ER"


Phil Basen was low on funds
JUST ONE MORE DRINK, PETE. HONEST, I'LL PAY YOU AT THE END OF THE WEEK. I EXPECT TO COLLECT SOME MONEY FROM A FRIEND!
PHIL, YOU OWE ME A LOT OF MONEY. AND I EXPECT TO BE PAID AT THE END OF THE MONTH. NO MORE DRINKS ON THE HOUSE!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, PHIL? COME ON OVER
WELL, IF IT ISN'T JOE RUNKEL! LONG TIME NO SEE!

CRIME AND JUSTICE

PHIL I WANT YOU TO MEET A FRIEND OF MINE, LOU HEVERS. HE'S FROM DENVER AND WAS LEFTY'S PARTNER
ANY FRIEND OF YOURS IS A FRIEND OF MINE HAVEN'T BEEN OUT TO DENVER FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS. GUESS THINGS ARE ABOUT THE SAME...
IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN COLD CASH, I GOT A PROPOSITION THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU. NO RISK, AND WE CAN EACH MAKE A NICE BANKROLL!
IF PHIL WANTS MORE DETAILS SUPPOSE WE DRIVE AROUND IN MY CAR THESE WALLS HAVE EARS.
PHIL WAS INTERESTED IN ANYTHING BUT HONEST WORK
THIS SETUP IS SO SIMPLE YOU'LL WONDER WHY YOU DIDN'T THINK OF IT BEFORE.
DON'T KEEP ME IN SUSPENSE, BUT REMEMBER, I'M OFF SAFE-CRACKING JOBS. POOR LEFTY HAS TEN YEARS MORE TO SERVE BECAUSE THEY GOT HIM ON THAT EAST SIDE JOB!
SEE THAT HOME? ONE OF THE NICEST PLACES IN TOWN AND OWNED BY MR RICHARD HENDERSON
WE'VE GOT A NEW KIND OF PLAN FIGURED OUT TO MAKE OURSELVES RICH AT HIS EXPENSE!
THERE'S THE HENDERSON KID. NAME'S HENRY, AND HE LIKES TO READ COMICS IT'S GOING TO BE THROUGH THAT KID THAT WE GET INTO THE HOUSE!
SO FAR IT SOUNDS SCREWY TO ME. HOW DOES A ROLY-POLY KID WHO LIKES THE FUNNIES, GET US INTO THE HOUSE?
IT DIDN'T TAKE MUCH CONVINCING TO GET PHIL TO AGREE TO THE PLAN.
LISTEN, PHIL, YOU'VE GOT A KIND FACE, SEE? YOU TELL THE KID YOU'RE COLLECTING COMICS FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN THE HOSPITALS. THAT'S HOW YOU GET IN THE HOUSE!
SURE, YOU RING THE BELL AND THEY LET YOU IN... SIMPLE, ISN'T IT? BUT GET THE LAYOUT OF THE PLACE!
2

CRIME AND JUSTICE

THE NEXT DAY
I HAVE THOSE TWO COMICS YOU THOUGHT YOU LOST YESTERDAY. THEY'RE IN MY ROOM BUT DON'T TELL DADDY ABOUT IT. HE STILL THINKS I'M OLD FASHIONED.
NOW I'LL TELL YOU A SECRET. WHEN DADDY LOCKS HIMSELF IN THE LIBRARY, WHAT DO YOU THINK HE'S DOING? HE'S READING MY COMICS!
NOW REMEMBER IN CASE THEY ASK YOUR NAME TELL THEM YOU'RE FRANKLYN ANTEMAN AND REMEMBER, NO FUMBLING!
HE AIN'T AN... THE KID OUGHT TO BE HERE SOON... AND IT, THERE THEY ARE NOW...
WE MEAN BUT I'M COLLECTING COMICS FOR THE WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN THE HOSPITALS. MAY I SPEAK TO YOUR SON?
I DON'T AUNT I UNDERSTAND YOU WANT COMIC BOOKS FOR MY NEPHEW
YOU CAN HAVE THESE COMICS. COME AGAIN TOMORROW AND I WILL HAVE MORE FOR YOU.
I WANT TO THANK YOU YOUNG MAN YOU HAVE A VERY BIG HEART I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW
THERE HE IS WITH THE COMICS DIDN'T I TELL YOU HE HAD A KIND LOOKING FACE? THE ONLY TROUBLE IS HE HAPPENS TO BE ONE BIG DOPE.
YEAH! IT WOULDN'T BE A GOOD IDEA TO HAVE HIM ON THE LOOSE ONCE THIS JOB IS FINISHED!
I'VE GOT TO COME BACK TOMORROW AND GET MORE COMICS. NOW HOW DO I GET INTO THE HOUSE?
IF I KNOW HUMAN NATURE, THE CHANCES ARE NINETY-NINE OUT OF A HUNDRED THEY'LL ASK YOU INTO THE HOUSE.

CRIME AND JUSTICE

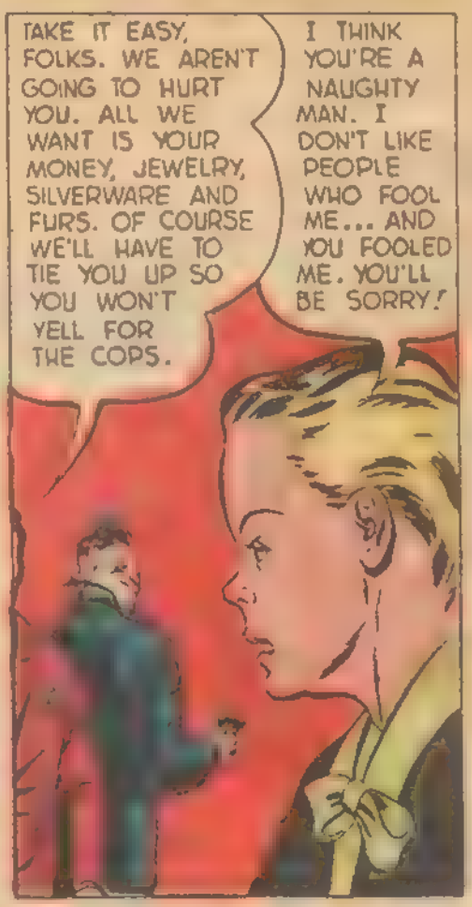
GOOD AFTERNOON. WHERE IS YOUR NICE NEPHEW? I'M COLLECTING MORE COMICS.
I THINK IT'S WONDERFUL OF YOU TO DEVOTE YOURSELF TO DOING THIS WORK EVERY LITTLE BIT WE CAN DO TO CHEER UP THE WOUNDED SOLDIERS MEANS SOMETHING.
YOU GUESSED RIGHT ABOUT HUMAN NATURE.
MY NEPHEW HAS MORE COMICS FOR YOU. WON'T YOU COME INSIDE FOR A MOMENT?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR KINDNESS. I'M GLAD THE BOY REMEMBERED ABOUT THE BOOKS.
I'VE TOLD SOME OF MY FRIENDS ABOUT YOU. THEY GAVE ME SOME OF THEIR COMICS TO GIVE TO YOU. TOMORROW I SHALL HAVE MORE FOR YOU.
GOOD FOR YOU SON... I'M GOING TO TELL THE SOLDIERS IN THE HOSPITAL ALL ABOUT YOU.
DO YOU THINK THAT YOU COULD GET A MACHINE GUN FOR ME? I WANT ONE IN WORKING CONDITION!
WHEN I GO TO WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH I'LL SPEAK TO THE GENERAL, MAYBE HE'LL GIVE ME ONE FOR YOU.
WHY DID THE KID WANT A MACHINE GUN? HE COULD'VE ASKED ME FOR AN AIRPLANE.
FORGET THE KID AND THE MACHINE GUN! DO YOU REMEMBER THE LAYOUT OF THE PLACE? THAT'S THE IMPORTANT THING!
WHY ARE WE STOPPING HERE? I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO THE BAR I'M THIRSTY, AND I COULD USE A COUPLE OF DRINKS.
FORGET ANY DRINKING UNTIL WE'RE FINISHED WITH THIS JOB. WE CAN TALK THINGS OVER BETTER IN MY ROOM.
ROOMS
4

FINAL PLANS FOR THE ROBBERY WERE MADE.
WE'VE GOT TO GET THE MAID AND THE COOK. THERE'S AN EXIT FROM THE KITCHEN TO THE GARAGE.
SEEMS LIKE AN EASY JOB TO ME. ONCE THEY TAKE ME TO THE DOOR, BOTH OF YOU ENTER THE HOUSE.
IT IS NOW EIGHT O'CLOCK. WE FIGURED THE ENTIRE FAMILY SHOULD BE THROUGH WITH THEIR DINNER AND IN THE LIVING ROOM BY NOW.
DON'T GET EXCITED PHIL, JUST TAKE IT EASY AND THE JOB WILL BE A CINCH. YOU YOURSELF SAID IT WAS EASY.
SOON AS I GET MY SHARE OF THE LOOT I'M GOING TO TAKE IT EASY. I KNOW A DOLL WHO WILL HELP ME SPEND IT. I HEAR FOOTSTEPS... COULD BE THE MAID.
IS THERE ANYTHING SPECIAL YOU WANT? I TALKED TO MY FRIENDS ABOUT YOUR WONDERFUL WORK COLLECTING THOSE COMICS.
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOUR NEPHEW. MAY I GIVE IT TO HIM? ONE OF THE SOLDIERS SENT IT WITH ME!
AND THE HENDERSONS HAD NEVER BEFORE PERMITTED A STRANGER TO ENTER THEIR HOME.
GOLLY... IS THIS FOR ME? AND A SOLDIER REALLY SENT IT? I WONDER WHAT IT IS! WILL IT BE A MACHINE GUN?
A WOUNDED SOLDIER SENT YOU THIS GIFT. HE WANTS TO THANK YOU FOR THOSE COMICS.
WILL YOU THANK THAT SOLDIER? I'M CERTAIN MY SON WILL WRITE HIM A LETTER OF APPRECIATION.
YOUR SON IS A VERY NICE BOY THOSE BOOKS HAVE BROUGHT MUCH HAPPINESS TO THE MEN IN THE HOSPITAL

CRIME AND JUSTICE

NOW DON'T GET EXCITED MR HENDERSON AND IF THAT MAID WANTS TO YELL, WE'LL QUIET HER TOO!
THIS IS JUST A FRIENDLY LITTLE VISIT. ALL OF YOU GET INTO THE LIVING ROOM, AND WE WANT THE COOK, TOO.

THE MOST DANGEROUS PERSON IN THE WORLD IS A KID WHO KNOWS HE HAS BEEN FOOLED!


TAKE IT EASY, FOLKS. WE AREN'T GOING TO HURT YOU. ALL WE WANT IS YOUR MONEY, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE AND FURS. OF COURSE WE'LL HAVE TO TIE YOU UP SO YOU WON'T YELL FOR THE COPS.
I THINK YOU'RE A NAUGHTY MAN. I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO FOOL ME... AND YOU FOOLED ME. YOU'LL BE SORRY!

IT OUGHT TO TAKE THEM SOME TIME TO GET OUT OF THOSE ROPES I USED ON THEM.
GOOD IDEA TO RIP OUT THE PHONE. THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO CALL THE COPS.

I MUST ADMIT IT WAS AN EASY JOB. THEY CERTAINLY FELL FOR THAT COMIC BOOK IDEA.
AND THEY CAN BLAME EITHER THE KID OR THE AUNT. NEXT TIME THEY WON'T EVEN LOOK AT A STRANGER.

RIPPING OUT THE PHONE WASN'T SUCH A CLEVER IDEA AFTER ALL.

WHEN THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE TELEPHONE COMPANY'S PHONE DOESN'T WORK, HE GETS SPECIAL SERVICE.
MR. HENDERSON IS A REGULAR GUY. HE HELPED ME TO GET MY JOB AND I'M GRATEFUL TO HIM.

SAY BOYS, GIVE ME MY SHARE IN CASH. YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF CASH FROM MR. HENDERSON.. YOU CAN KEEP THE REST OF THE STUFF.
OF COURSE. YOU'LL GET EVERYTHING THAT'S COMING TO YOU, PHIL. YOU DID YOUR PART FINE.

CRIME AND JUSTICE

ANYTHING WRONG? WHY DID YOU STOP? IF THE COPS FIND US HERE AND BEGIN ASKING QUESTIONS THERE'LL BE TROUBLE.
I GUESS IT'S THE REAR END OF THE CAR. WE'LL GET OUT AND SEE WHAT WE CAN DO TO FIX IT.
WITH PHIL OUT OF THE WAY IT WOULD BE A TWO WAY SPLIT.
WHAT KIND OF A GAG IS THIS? CUT OUT THE FUNNY BUSINESS AND DON'T TRY TO SCARE ME. I WANT WHAT IS COMING TO ME!
YOU'RE GOING TO GET WHAT'S COMING TO YOU! WE'VE GOT TO KILL YOU. WE WERE MASKED AND THEY CAN'T IDENTIFY US. YOU'RE THE ONLY LINK TO US.
DROP THOSE GUNS, BOYS. WE HAVE YOU SURROUNDED ON EVERY SIDE!
COPS... COPS... HOW DID THEY GET HERE? I'M NOT GOING TO SURRENDER AS LONG AS I HAVE A GUN IN MY HAND.
OKAY, FELLAS SO YOU WANT TO PLAY ROUGH!
I SURRENDER! DON'T SHOOT!
I'LL SPILL EVERYTHING. THEY TRIED TO DOUBLE-CROSS ME AND ALMOST KILLED ME. BUT HOW DID YOU COPPERS GET HERE IN TIME TO SAVE ME?
ALL THE CREDIT GOES TO THAT KID, HENRY. HE HAD THE LICENSE NUMBER OF YOUR CAR. THE REST WAS EASY. WE HAD AN ALARM OUT FOR YOU.
..AND THIS BADGE MAKES YOU AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. YOUR PARENTS HAVE REASON TO BE PROUD. WHAT YOU DID WAS WONDERFUL.
IT WAS ALL IN THE COMIC BOOKS. IT SAYS ALWAYS TAKE DOWN LICENSE NUMBERS IN AN EMERGENCY.
AND SO ENDS A STRANGE TALE ABOUT.. COMIC BOOKS.. VS.. CRIME

THE KIDNAPPED PROFESSOR

On this particular spring day, Dr. Charles Everett Tole walked down the Main Street of Cooperstown with unusual vigor. Professor Emeritus of State University didn't exactly look like the type who had lived with Latin and Greek words for most of his life. He was not very tall but extremely well set and robust. His hair and goatee were perfectly white. His pale blue eyes still had a sparkle in them that spelled a bit of youthful mischief. His nose was Roman and his complexion between brown and fair. Father Time had watched Dr. Tole live eighty-three years in his native state. "I'll live to be a hundred or die in the attempt," was his favorite boast. Even Joe DeMartino who ran all the gambling in the county had been heard to remark, "I'm willing to take bets that the old boy makes it. Five to three he hits ninety. Even money he makes the century mark."

Dressed in a cutaway that had seen better times, striped trousers, and a tie that looked akin to an ascot, the Professor certainly spelled satorial splendor, even if a couple of decades out of date. When he reached Main and Pine Streets, the widow Perkins greeted him. "Good Morning, Professor," she said in her high squeeky voice. 'I heard all about the wonderful news. Just think. Your nephew, Colonel Bickbee, dies and leaves you $200,000. That goes to show you fortune can come at any time of life. I understand he was one of Georgia's leading citizens. What are you going to do with all that money?" The Professor stroked his goatee as though in deep meditation. "Tentatively, I think I will line up all the kids in town and give them each a hundred dollars." The widow Perkins evidently didn't like the answer she received. First, she definitely uttered a "H'mmmmm" under her breath added words to the effect, "He has a screw loose in the head."

When Dr. Tole reached Louie's Market on Main and Tenth Streets, the proprietor of that worthy establishment, Louie Caruso, rushed out to greet the town's newest rich man. "Read all about it in last night's special. Why did he leave you all that money?" The Professor sighed. He realized it might be easier to print cards with answers. "Truthfully speaking my nephew hated me. Just did it to get even with me because I once told him he was a good for nothing rascal." Louie shrugged his shoulders. You just don't insult rich clients. "That reminds me," he added. "I hope you aren't angry because I called the house about the twenty-five dollars you owe on last month's bill. Please accept it as a present and I hope you continue to give my place your business." The Professor smiled, "Thanks, Louie. The Greeks had a word for it, but at my age, I have forgotten it."

Dr. Tole turned down the alley that separated Eleventh Street from Twelfth. A sedan was parked at the curb. A man in his late twenties, with cap pulled down over his eyes and a half smoked cigarette in his mouth eyed the approaching man. "Are you the professor who just inherited all the dough?" he asked in no uncertain words. Dr. Tole looked at the unkempt figure who had addressed him. "I am the person," he replied, "But just who are you?" "The boys call me Nick the Nicker," was the introduction. "Now get into the car before I shove you in."

The scholar hesitated a minute, only to find himself lifted bodily into the car. "Just relax, Prof, relax and nothing will happen to you," was the warning uttered by a squinty eyed, short fat, man who had had little acquaintance with bathtubs. 'What are you doing? I demand to know, or I will notify the authorities!" As he finished those words, the door slammed shut and Nick the Nicker spoke to the driver 'Watch the speed laws out here, Joe. We don't want the cops to pick us up." Then turning to the Professor he added, "This is a snatch, Bub. Or maybe kidnapping will make it clearer."

Half an hour later the car turned off highway 12 and stopped before a three story frame house. "No noise or trouble or we may have to kill you," warned the driver of the car. "Stop

this nonsense," warned the Professor. "You just don't kill a money investment. Remember if you want my wife Martha to pay good cash for me, it's up to you to see I am in good condition." The men entered the house. Joe the driver seemed to be the boss. Turning to Nick the Nicker he remarked, "Take this bird to the rooms on the top floor and tell him how to behave."

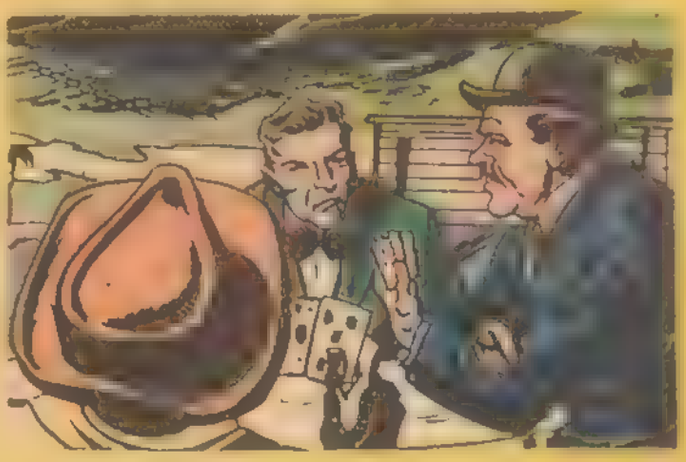
With mock seriousness, Nick the Nicker bowed to the professor, made a long sweep with his hand and said, "Just walk up those stairs until we reach the white door." Slowly Dr. Tole went up, step by step. "You might have been considerate enough to have installed an elevator. This is tough exercise for a man of my age who wants to live to be a hundred." "You won't live the week out if your old lady doesn't come across with one hundred thousand bucks for you." There was no doubt from the tone of voice that the speaker wouldn't hesitate to carry out his threat.

Dr. Tole found himself seated on a hard chair next to a very old table. The room was practically bare. There were three large windows, each covered with a black shade. "Couldn't I smash a window and jump to the ground?" he asked Nick the Nicker. The kidnapper grunted. "We are miles ahead of you, professor. The windows are nailed down tight from the outside. And you can't smash the glass because it's shatterproof. So make yourself comfortable. There's a pen, ink, and paper on the desk. Write a letter to your old lady and tell her unless she pays us $100,000 she won't get you back in one piece."

Slowly the professor wrote a letter. Then he took a small bottle from his coat pocket. "Mrs. Tole asked me to get her some real vanilla flavor. She is going to bake a cake for me. Will you kindly deliver this to her with the ransom note." Nick the Nicker tried to think of some unpleasant words but the angelic look on the old man's face changed his mind. "I'll send up some coffee and sandwiches for you to eat later," he said. "Oh," exclaimed the professor, "there's one more favor to ask. At home I have a large scrap book with clippings about myself. So will you get me all the newspapers. Want to see if I make page one in large type."

The next morning Joe brought up four newspapers and breakfast on a tray. "I don't want to seem ungrateful," began the professor, "but will you tell your boss I object to having too much mustard on my roast beef sandwiches." It was on the tip of Joe's tongue to say, "You got a nerve to complain," but instead he just shrugged his shoulders and left the room.

For the next three hours the kidnappers played cards downstairs in the living room. "Do we kill this bird the way we did old man Houghton or shall we let him return to his wife?" asked



Joe. Nick the Nicker was on the point of answering when he heard a loud knock on the door. "We don't expect any company," he said to his companions, at the same time letting his hand touch the gun in his hip pocket. "Who's there?" he asked. A low voice replied, "I just had an automobile accident outside. My wife is hurt. Can I come in for a minute?" Nick the Nicker nodded his head and Joe opened the door. In dashed three state troopers, each armed with a sub machine gun. "One move out of you boys, and you are dead ducks. Take us up to the Professor and be quick about it."

Three startled kidnappers, each securely handcuffed, looked on as Captain David Shortell of the State Highway Patrol congratulated the professor. "Pretty clever idea of you to tip us off where they were holding you prisoner." Nick the Nicker's pride was hurt. "How could the old man contact you cops? He was here all the time." Captain Shortell moved the three shades and the startled gangsters saw across the windows strips of newspapers cut into letters which read "Help. Dr. Tole is held here by kidnappers." And before they could recover from their astonishment one of the troopers commented: "You certainly are lucky, Dr. Tole. Same gang that killed Sam Houghton. There's about $25,000 in federal, state, and private rewards coming your way. I guess you really don't need that extra money, considering you just inherited $200,000."

The Professor chuckled heartily. Then he pointed his index finger at the leader of the kidnappers. "My late nephew should be here to see how his joke of leaving me $200,000 in Confederate money has turned out. He would squirm in his grave if he knew I made $25,000 on the deal."

CRIME AND JUSTICE

The BESTED BURGLAR

PETE GORN WAS A THREE TIME LOSER. HE HAD ESCAPED FROM PRISON. THERE WERE REWARDS TOTALLING $15,000 FOR HIS CAPTURE DEAD OR ALIVE. HIS MOTTO WAS "NO PERSON ALIVE CAN GET THE BEST OF ME." MRS. DOROTHY THAYER HAD JEWELRY AND TO PETE THAT MEANT MONEY.

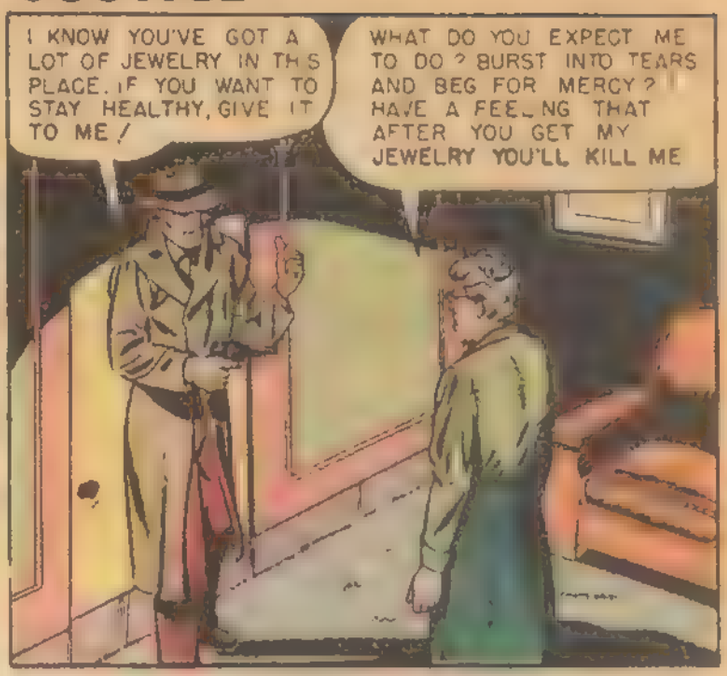
I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF JEWELRY IN THIS PLACE. IF YOU WANT TO STAY HEALTHY, YOU'LL GIVE IT TO ME
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO ? BURST INTO TEARS AND BEG FOR MERCY? I'VE A FEELING THAT AFTER YOU TAKE MY JEWELRY, YOU'LL KILL ME
SAY JIM, I'D LIKE TO GET PETE GORN, IT'D MEAN A PROMOTION FOR ME.
EVERY MAN ON THE FORCE IS OUT LOOKING FOR HIM. THEY SAY HE'S A DEADLY KILLER WITH A PERFECT AIM
WANTED
PETE GOR
IF THE NEWSBOY HAD ONLY KNOWN THE IDENTITY OF THE MAN BUYING A PAPER
GET YOUR LATEST EXTRA ! POLICE LOOKING FOR ESCAPED CONVICT LATEST REPORTS SEEN HERE IN CITY !
GIVE ME A PAPER, BOY.. WONDER IF THE COPS THINK THEY ARE GOING TO CAPTURE PETE GORN
DICK GIORDANO

CRIME AND JUSTICE

M WORTH MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE I'M NOT GOING BACK TO STIR AGAIN. ALL I NEED IS SOME DOUGH AND THEN I CAN HIDE OUT FOR A YEAR
LOOK AT THE FACE ON THAT DAME / MUST BE WORTH A FORTUNE AND IT SAYS SHE LIVES ALONE SINCE THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND EVEN GIVES HER ADDRESS...WELL, PETE....WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR ?
SOFT DRINKS CANDIES ICE CREAM / EVEN GOT PEANUTS AND CIGARETTES /
SOCIETY PAGE
Ice Cream
HAVE YOU SEEN MY CHAUFFEUR ? HE SHOULD BE HERE WITH THE CAR
THERE MUST BE A BACK ENTRANCE OR SERVICE ENTRANCE TO THIS PLACE. BET THE PEOPLE HERE ROLL IN DOUGH
LR
PETE WAS WAITING FOR THE CHANCE TO GO IN UNOBSERVED.
MADE MORE ON TIPS THIS WEEK THAN I DID ON MY SALARY.
WE'RE GOING FISHING OVER THE WEEK-END. WANT TO COME WITH US ?
LOOKS LIKE A SELF SERVICE ELEVATOR WHERE DOES THAT DAME LIVE ? YEH, I SEE HER NAME NOW APARTMENT 16C. NOW TO PAY HER A VISIT...
ELEVA
D THAYER
HELLO / WHO'S THERE ? WHAT DO YOU WANT ?
TELEGRAM FOR MRS THAYER. YOU HAVE TO SIGN FOR IT /

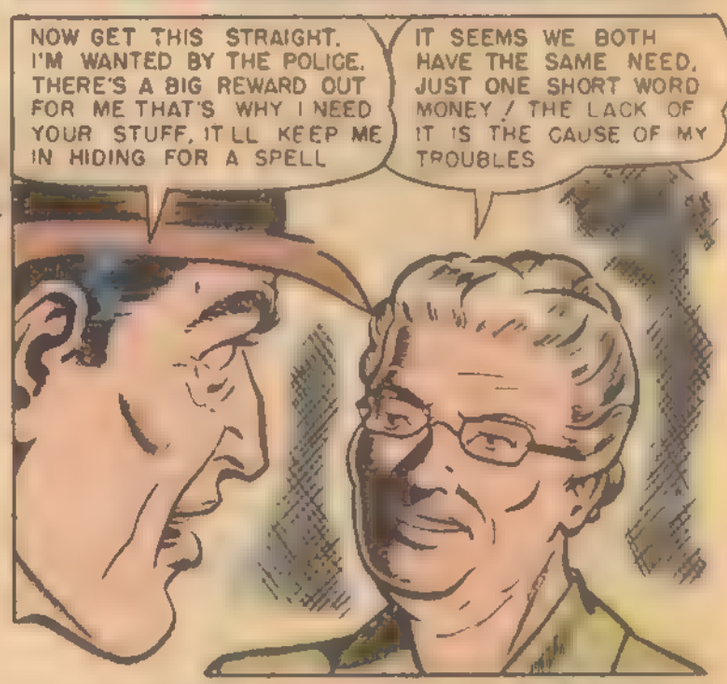
CRIME AND JUSTICE

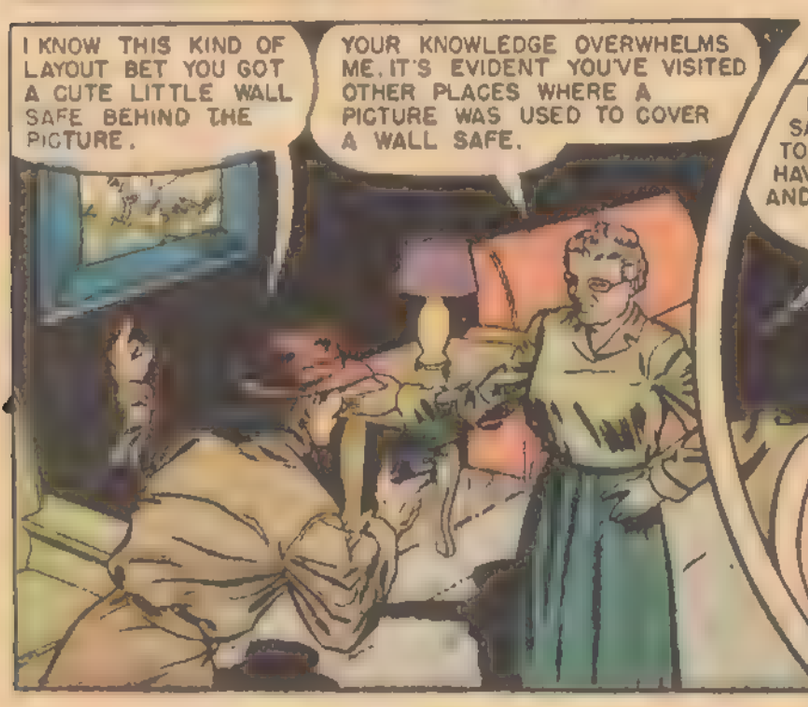
BE A NICE DAME AND DON'T SHOUT FOR HELP JUST START WALKING BACK INTO YOUR LIVING ROOM. I WANT TO SEE THIS JOINT.
YOU AREN'T A MESSENGER BOY / THAT WAS JUST AN OLD TIME RUSE TO GET ME TO OPEN THE DOOR, AND AT MY AGE I FELL FOR IT.

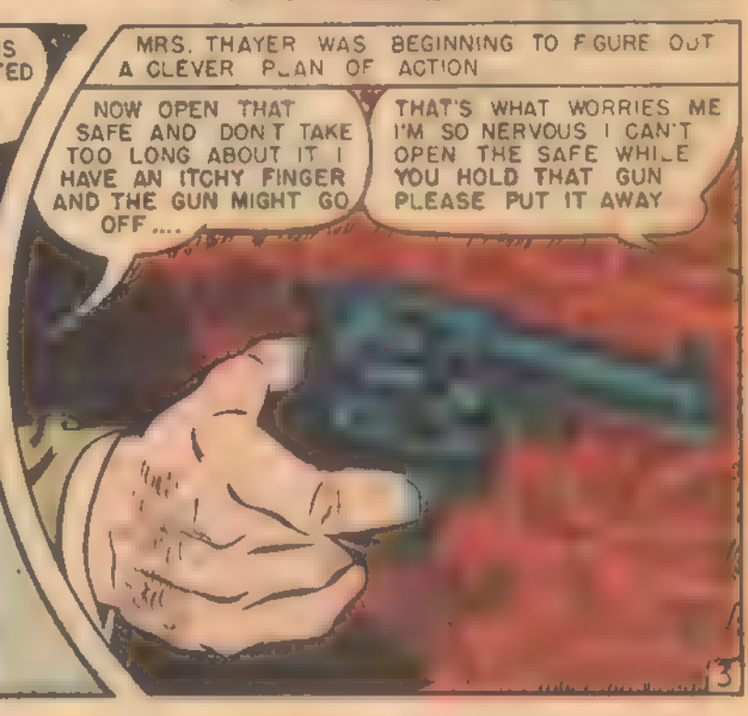

I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF JEWELRY IN THIS PLACE. IF YOU WANT TO STAY HEALTHY, GIVE IT TO ME /
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO ? BURST INTO TEARS AND BEG FOR MERCY ? I HAVE A FEELING THAT AFTER YOU GET MY JEWELRY YOU'LL KILL ME

SUPPOSE I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH ? I HAVEN'T A CENT TO MY NAME I OWE THE MANAGEMENT RENT FOR THE PAST FOUR MONTHS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO ? BREAK DOWN AT THE SOB STUFF YOU'RE HANDING ME ? COME ON SISTER. STOP STALLING .....

AND MRS. THAYER WAS TELLING THE TRUTH TO PETE! IF HE HAD ONLY BELIEVED HER!


NOW GET THIS STRAIGHT. I'M WANTED BY THE POLICE. THERE'S A BIG REWARD OUT FOR ME THAT'S WHY I NEED YOUR STUFF, IT'LL KEEP ME IN HIDING FOR A SPELL
IT SEEMS WE BOTH HAVE THE SAME NEED, JUST ONE SHORT WORD MONEY / THE LACK OF IT IS THE CAUSE OF MY TROUBLES


I KNOW THIS KIND OF LAYOUT BET YOU GOT A CUTE LITTLE WALL SAFE BEHIND THE PICTURE.
YOUR KNOWLEDGE OVERWHELMS ME. IT'S EVIDENT YOU'VE VISITED OTHER PLACES WHERE A PICTURE WAS USED TO COVER A WALL SAFE.


MRS. THAYER WAS BEGINNING TO FIGURE OUT A CLEVER PLAN OF ACTION
NOW OPEN THAT SAFE AND DON'T TAKE TOO LONG ABOUT IT I HAVE AN ITCHY FINGER AND THE GUN MIGHT GO OFF ....
THAT'S WHAT WORRIES ME I'M SO NERVOUS I CAN'T OPEN THE SAFE WHILE YOU HOLD THAT GUN PLEASE PUT IT AWAY

CRIME AND JUSTICE

PETE HAD PUT THE GUN AWAY. HE KNEW HE COULD HANDLE THE OLD DAME WITH HIS BARE HANDS
I HAVEN'T ALL DAY TO WAIT. IF YOU DON'T GET THAT SAFE OPENED IN A MINUTE, THEN OUT COMES MY GUN.
THE SAFE IS OPENED, AND YOU'LL GET WHAT IS COMING TO YOU ..
LITTLE DID PETE KNOW THAT MRS. THAYER HAD A BOTTLE OF ACID IN HER SAFE TO SIGNAL FOR HELP
NOW I HAVE A GUN IN MY HAND. AND DON'T YOU TRY TO GO FOR YOUR GUN.
YOU DIZZY DAME / WONDER WHO TOLD YOU ABOUT KEEPING A GUN IN YOUR SAFE.... NICE TRICK AT THAT
GIVE ME THAT GUN / YOU MIGHT GET HURT AIEEE / I'M HIT
IF YOU COME ANY CLOSER, I'LL FIRE AGAIN. AND I'M NOT FOOLING. YOU'RE A DANGEROUS MAN. YOU TOLD ME SO, YOURSELF.....
THIS'LL CERTAINLY MAKE THE HEADLINES. I BET YOU'LL GET OFFERS FROM RADIO, TELEVISION, AND THE MOVIES. YOU CERTAINLY ARE ONE OF THE BRAVEST AND COOLEST WOMEN I'VE EVER MET /
I UNDERSTAND THERE IS A LITTLE MATTER CONCERNING A REWARD. MY LATE HUSBAND TOLD ME ABOUT KEEPING A GUN IN THE SAFE.
IT'S A PLEASURE TO HAND YOU THIS REWARD MRS. THAYER. YOU CERTAINLY DESERVE IT.
I'M OVERWHELMED AT THE REACTION OF THE PUBLIC TO WHAT I HAVE DONE. A TOWN OUT WEST HAS OFFERED ME A JOB AS POLICE COMMISSIONER I MIGHT TAKE IT.
LATER
YOU WANT ME WARDEN ? ANYTHING I'VE DONE ? IT'S BEEN TOUGH IN THIS PRISON THE OTHER PRISONERS ALL LAUGH AT ME
JUST A PRESENT FOR YOU MRS. THAYER THOUGHT YOU MIGHT AS WELL HAVE THE JEWELRY YOU WANTED THEY'RE PASTE AND WORTHLESS, BUT YOU HELPED MAKE HER A RICH WOMAN
AN OLD DAME GOT THE BEST OF PETE YOU COULD CALL HIM THE BESTED BURGLAR

CRIME AND JUSTICE

RADIO PATROL

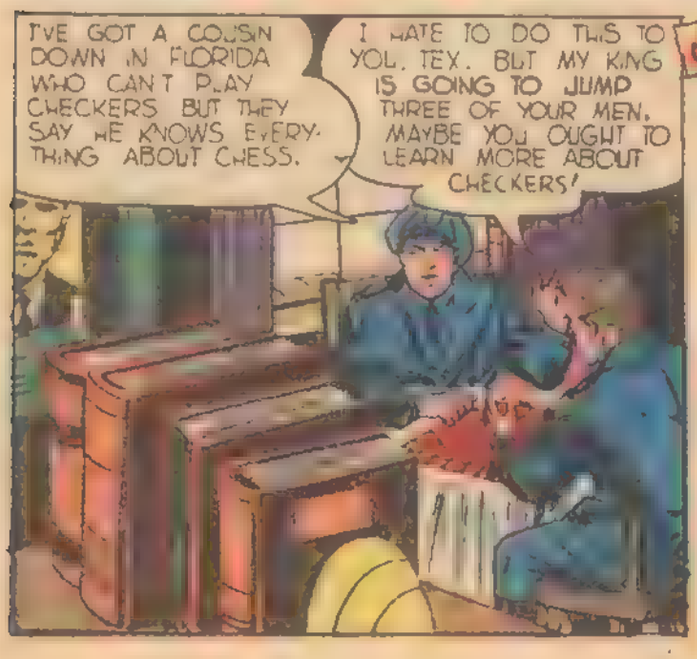
FOLLOW THE RADIO PATROL IN ANOTHER ONE OF THEIR EXCITING ADVENTURES... AS TEX AND BARRY MEET UP WITH MURDER, ARSON, AND A GANG OF RUTHLESS KILLERS. WHEN THE MEAGER CLUES ARE ADDED UP THEY FIND A GREAT SURPRISE BEHIND IT ALL.

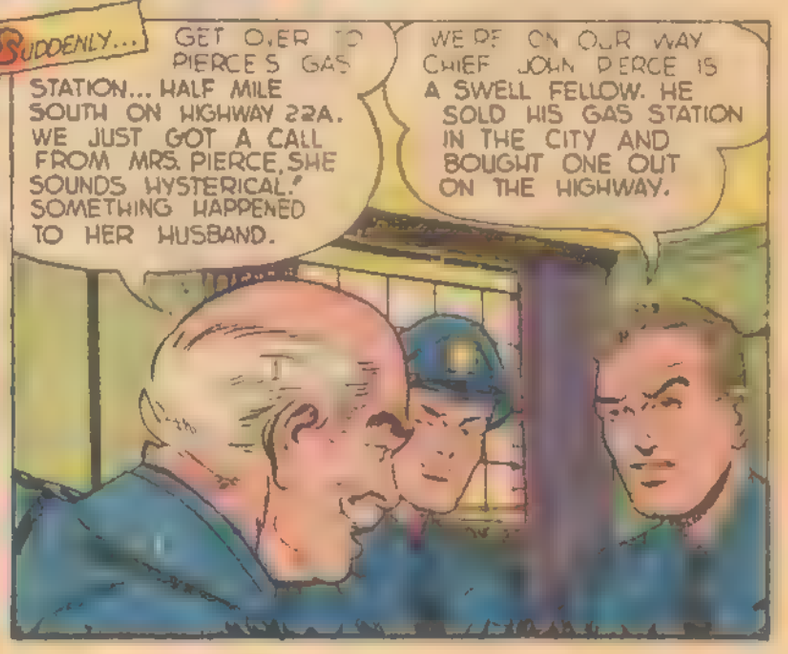
in

"The GAS STATION MURDERS"

by

JOHN SELBY


I'VE GOT A COUSIN DOWN IN FLORIDA WHO CAN'T PLAY CHECKERS BUT THEY SAY HE KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT CHESS.
I HATE TO DO THIS TO YOU, TEX. BUT MY KING IS GOING TO JUMP THREE OF YOUR MEN. MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CHECKERS!


SUDDENLY...
GET OVER TO PIERCE'S GAS STATION... HALF MILE SOUTH ON HIGHWAY 22A. WE JUST GOT A CALL FROM MRS. PIERCE, SHE SOUNDS HYSTERICAL! SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HER HUSBAND.
WE'RE ON OUR WAY CHIEF JOHN PIERCE IS A SWELL FELLOW. HE SOLD HIS GAS STATION IN THE CITY AND BOUGHT ONE OUT ON THE HIGHWAY.

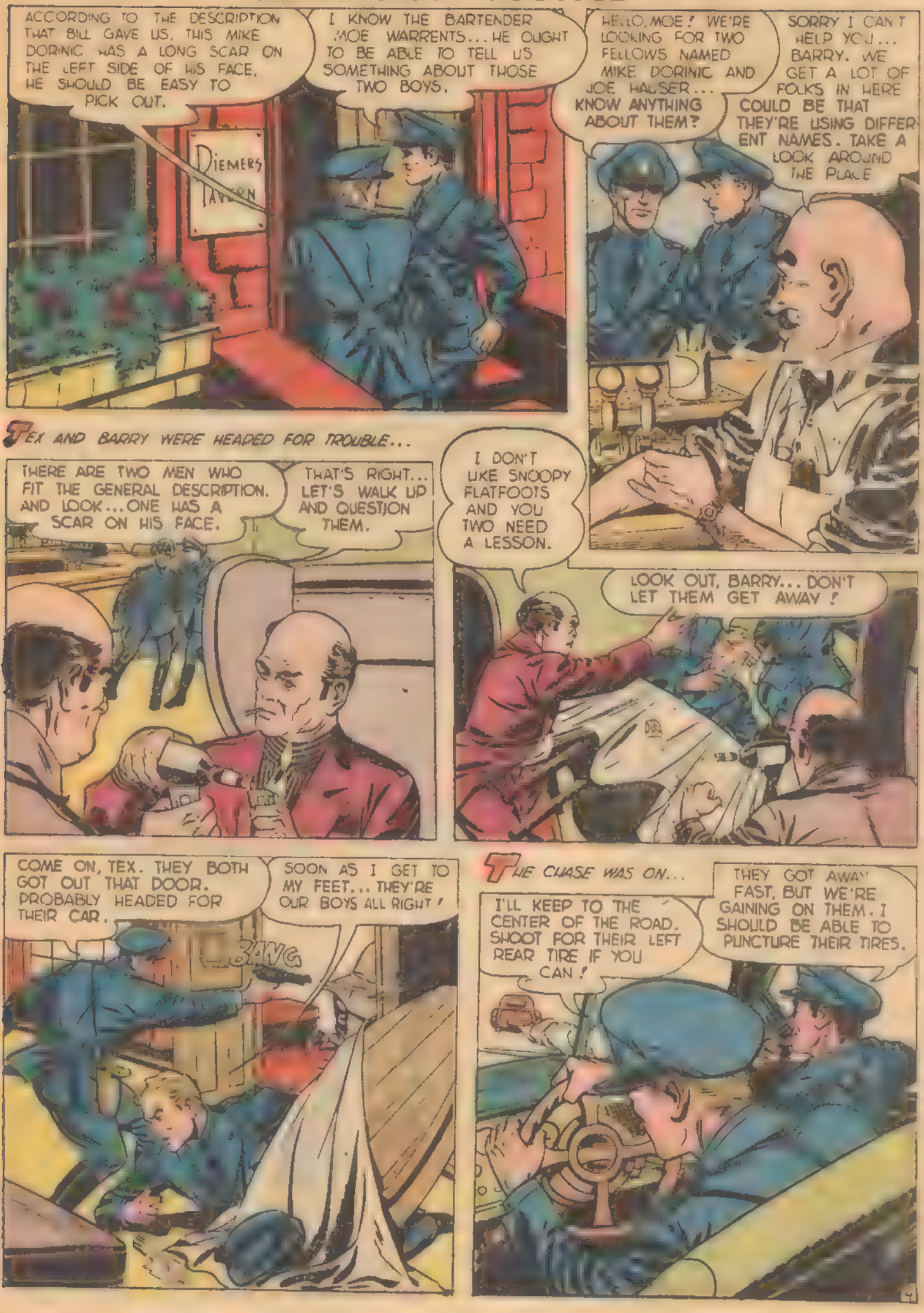
CRIME AND JUSTICE

TWO MEN TOOK MY HUSBAND AWAY... I MUST HAVE FAINTED FOR A FEW MINUTES... THEY CUT THE PHONE CORD IN THE OFFICE. BUT THE MAIN CONNECTION IS IN THE HOUSE.
DO YOU GET THE LICENSE NUMBER OF THE CAR? CAN YOU GIVE US A DESCRIPTION OF THE MEN?
MRS PIERCE HELPED US AS MUCH AS SHE COULD... BUT STILL, THERE WERE MANY THINGS TO BE KNOWN... CLUES WERE VAGUE...
C'MON, TEX... WE'LL HEAD SOUTH FOR ABOUT THIRTY MILES. WE o MIGHT BE LUCKY AND PICK UP SOME CLUES. WE HAVEN'T MUCH TO GO ON.
PLEASE BRING MY HUSBAND BACK TO ME. IF IT'S MONEY THEY WANT, I'LL GIVE THEM EVERY CENT WE HAVE IN THE BANK!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER THE RADIO PATROL CAR FOUND SOMETHING TRAGIC.
GOSH! WE CAN'T TELL MRS PIERCE HER HUSBAND IS DEAD... THAT'LL BE UP TO THE CHIEF.
WONDER WHAT THE MOTIVE COULD HAVE BEEN? HE WAS LIKED BY EVERYONE.
THAT'S RIGHT CHIEF... WE'RE SURE IT'S PIERCE'S BODY... WE'LL CONTINUE OUR SEARCH AS SOON AS YOU GET HERE.
REMEMBER TO TELL THE CHIEF HE'LL HAVE TO BREAK THE BAD NEWS TO MRS. PIERCE
SAY, BARRY... LOOK AT THAT GLOW IN THE SKY. MUST BE A FIRE DOWN THE HIGHWAY. WONDER WHAT IT COULD BE?
CRAWLEY'S BARN IS ON THAT SIDE OF THE ROAD... AND A GAS STATION... C'MON, STEP ON IT!
WELL, THERE'S NOT MUCH WE CAN DO TO FIGHT THIS... THE ENTIRE GAS STATION WILL BE UP IN FLAMES IN A MINUTE.
QUICK... THERE'S AN OFFICE IN THE BACK. BETTER GO AROUND AND MAKE SURE NO ONE IS INSIDE...

CRIME AND JUSTICE

HELP... SAVE ME... I'M BURNING!
THERE'S A MAN INSIDE THAT OFFICE! PLAY THAT EXTINGUISHER ON ME AS I RUN IN THERE! I MAY BE ABLE TO CARRY HIM OUT.
GOT HIM BARRY LOOK, HIS HANDS ARE TIED!
LET ME HELP YOU WITH HIM... I'LL GET THE FIRST AID KIT THEN I'LL CALL THE CHIEF.
... THEY WANTED ME TO JOIN A PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION... WHEN I REFUSED... THEY TIED... AND TORTURED ME... BURNED MY STATION... IT... IT WAS...
GOSH! HE'S DEAD...
WE'RE HEADING FOR BILL BARBER'S GAS STATION. HE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THIS NEW RACKET.
THE CHIEF THINKS THAT'S A GOOD IDEA... HE AND THE CORONER CAN PICK UP THE SECOND BODY.
SAY, BILL..? DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT SOME GANGSTERS WHO ARE TRYING TO FORCE YOU FELLOWS INTO A PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION?
THEY KILLED TWO MEN AND BURNED DOWN ONE GAS STATION... THEY'RE CRAZY IF THEY THINK THEY CAN GET AWAY WITH IT!
GOOD WORK! NOW WE HAVE SOMETHING TO GO ON. NEVER HEARD OF THOSE TWO BOYS... MUST BE NEW IN THESE PARTS. C'MON LET'S PAY THEM A VISIT.
I SURE DO... THEY GAVE ME UNTIL NEXT WEEK TO DECIDE, SO I DID A LITTLE DETECTIVE WORK ON MY OWN AND FOLLOWED THEM... ONE IS CALLED JOE HAUSER AND THE OTHER IS MIKE DORINIC. THEY HANG OUT AT DIEMER'S TAVERN.
3

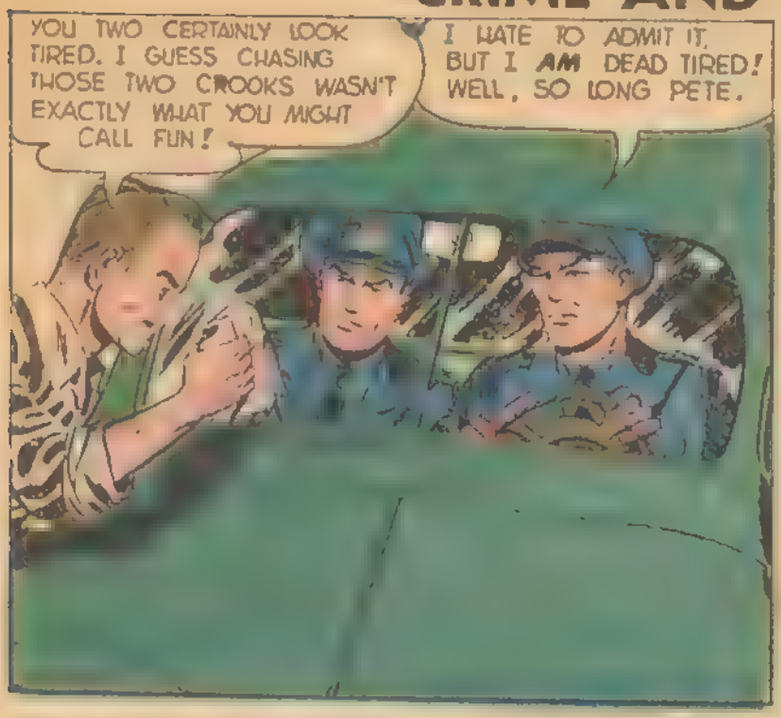
CRIME AND JUSTICE


ACCORDING TO THE DESCRIPTION THAT BILL GAVE US, THIS MIKE DORINIC WAS A LONG SCAR ON THE LEFT SIDE OF HIS FACE. HE SHOULD BE EASY TO PICK OUT.
I KNOW THE BARTENDER MOE WARRENTS... HE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE TWO BOYS.
DIEMERS
HELLO, MOE! WE'RE LOOKING FOR TWO FELLOWS NAMED MIKE DORINIC AND JOE HALSER... KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THEM?
SORRY I CAN'T HELP YOU... BARRY. WE GET A LOT OF FOLKS IN HERE COULD BE THAT THEY'RE USING DIFFERENT NAMES. TAKE A LOOK AROUND THE PLACE
TEX AND BARRY WERE HEADED FOR TROUBLE...
THERE ARE TWO MEN WHO FIT THE GENERAL DESCRIPTION. AND LOOK... ONE HAS A SCAR ON HIS FACE.
THAT'S RIGHT... LET'S WALK UP AND QUESTION THEM.
I DON'T LIKE SNOOPY FLATFOOTS AND YOU TWO NEED A LESSON.
LOOK OUT, BARRY... DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!
COME ON, TEX. THEY BOTH GOT OUT THAT DOOR. PROBABLY HEADED FOR THEIR CAR.
SOON AS I GET TO MY FEET... THEY'RE OUR BOYS ALL RIGHT!
BANG
THE CHASE WAS ON...
I'LL KEEP TO THE CENTER OF THE ROAD. SHOOT FOR THEIR LEFT REAR TIRE IF YOU CAN!
THEY GOT AWAY FAST, BUT WE'RE GAINING ON THEM. I SHOULD BE able TO PUNCTURE THEIR TIRES.

CRIME AND JUSTICE

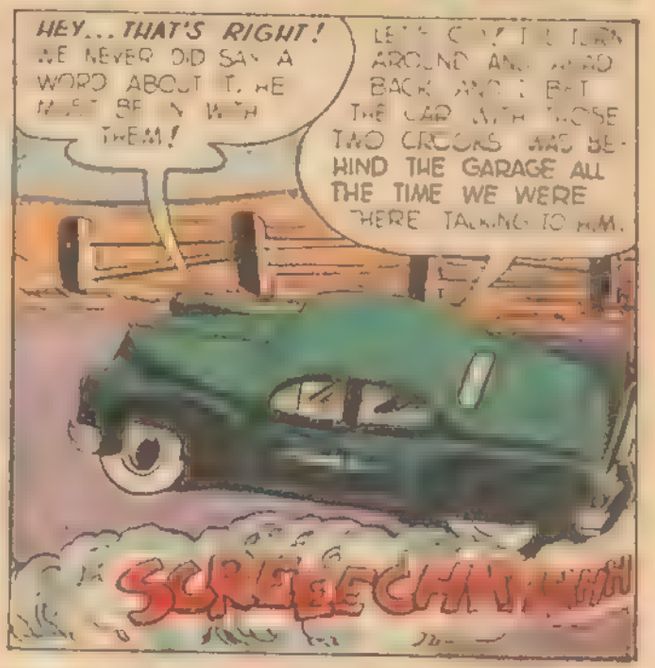
THIS PATROL CAR HAS ONE SWEET MOTOR IF THEY THINK THEY CAN BEAT US THEY HAVE ANOTHER GUESS COMING!
GOSH! I THINK I GOT ONE OF THEM... HEY, WHAT'S MAKING THIS CAR SWERVE SO?
WHAT ROTTEN LUCK! OUR TWO FRONT TIRES GONE FLAT!
IT WAS CLOSE... THANKS TO YOUR KNOW HOW OF DRIVING THAT WE'RE SAFE. LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT THE DAMAGE.
5410
THEY USED THE OLD TRICK, THROWING A HANDFUL OF NAILS AT US. LOOK AT THOSE TIRES... COMPLETELY RUINED. WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO THEM NOW.
WE SHOULD'VE HAD PUNCTURE PROOF TIRES. LET'S RUN THE CAR DOWN TO THE NEXT GAS STATION AND GET HELP.
HEY, PETE, COME ON OUT AND GIVE US A HAND, WE'VE GOT TWO FLATS.
COMING BARRY! YOUR PATROL CAR LOOKS AS THOUGH IT'S A BIT WOBBLY. CAN I SELL YOU TWO NEW TIRES?
PETE'S
GAS STATION
I GUESS SO... BILL US THROUGH THE REGULAR CHANNELS. BY THE WAY, HAVE TWO FELLOWS EVER TRIED TO SELL YOU ANY PROTECTIVE INSURANCE OR MADE ANY THREATS AGAINST YOU?
DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. THINGS ARE RATHER PEACEFUL IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY.
LUCKY I HAD THOSE TWO TIRES IN STOCK THERE... THAT JUST ABOUT DOES IT.
THANKS, PETE. COME ON, TEX... LET'S GO.

CRIME AND JUSTICE

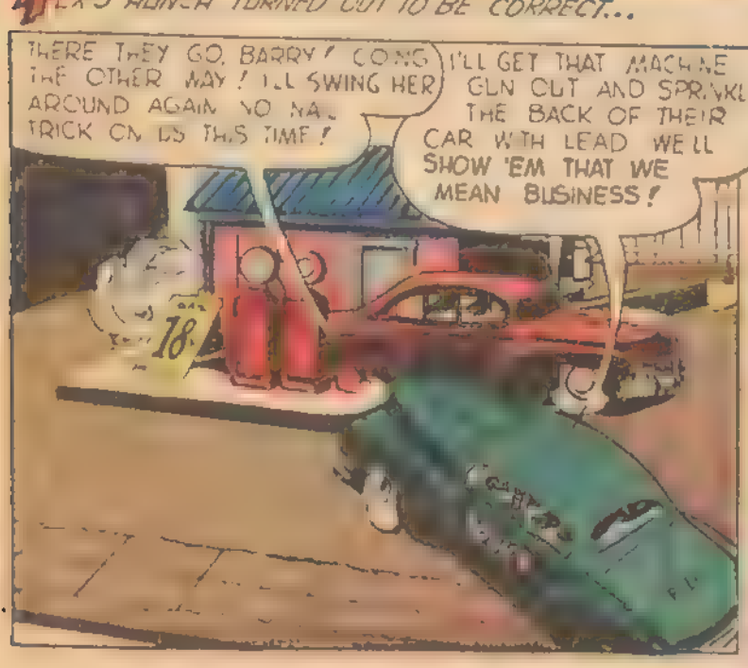

YOU TWO CERTAINLY LOOK TIRED. I GUESS CHASING THOSE TWO CROOKS WASN'T EXACTLY WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL FUN!
I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT I AM DEAD TIRED! WELL, SO LONG PETE.

MIGHT AS WELL THROW THESE OLD ONES AWAY. HOW ABOUT SELLING YOUR CHIEF ON SOME MORE NEW ONES. I'LL GIVE HIM A GOOD DISCOUNT ON THEM.
MAYBE SO... BUT THE ONLY TIRES I'LL SELL HIM ON ARE THOSE NEW PUNCTURE PROOF ONES, OR MAYBE A TIRE WITH A MAGNETIC PICK-UP FOR NAILS!
GAS
18

WHAT'S THE MATTER TEX? FOR THE PAST FEW MINUTES YOU HAVEN'T SAID A WORD. DO YOU FEEL ALL RIGHT?
SURE .. JUST THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME. I DON'T REMEMBER TELLING PETE WE'RE CHASING TWO CROOKS!


HEY... THAT'S RIGHT! WE NEVER DID SAY A WORD ABOUT IT. HE MUST BE IN WITH THEM!
LET'S GO BACK AND TURN AROUND AND HEAD BACK AND GET THE CAR WITH THOSE TWO CROOKS AND BEHIND THE GARAGE ALL THE TIME WE WERE THERE TALKING TO HIM.
SCREECHHHHH

TEX'S HUNCH TURNED OUT TO BE CORRECT...


THERE THEY GO, BARRY! CONG THE OTHER WAY! I'LL SWING HER AROUND AGAIN SO NAIL TRICK ON US THIS TIME!
I'LL GET THAT MACHINE GUN OUT AND SPRINKLE THE BACK OF THEIR CAR WITH LEAD WE'LL SHOW 'EM THAT WE MEAN BUSINESS!
18

IF THIS DOESN'T STOP THEM, THEN THEY MUST BE CRAZY! I HIT BOTH REAR TIRES AND THE CAR SHOULD HAVE LEARNT
THEY CAN'T GO MUCH FARTHER! WE'RE ALMOST ON TOP OF THEM NOW.

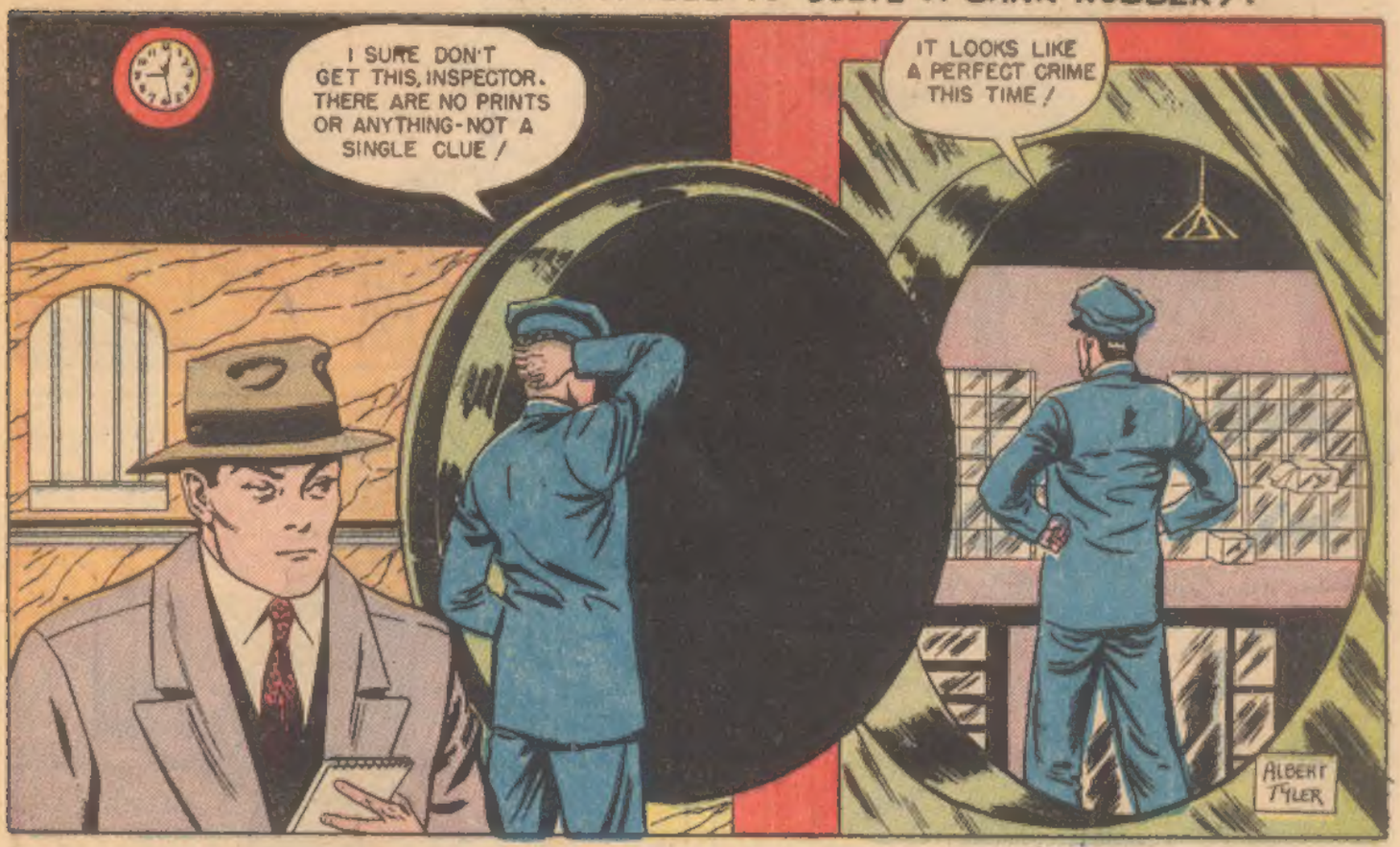
CRIME AND JUSTICE

ALL RIGHT... GET OUT OF THAT CAR AND WITH YOUR HANDS UP NO FUNNY BUSINESS EITHER!
OKAY OKAY! WE'LL BE OUT IN A MINUTE FLAT COPPERS
HERE, TRY ON THESE FANCY BRACELETS FOR SIZE, THEN GET INTO OUR CAR!
YEAH SURE COPPER.
WHUPS! WATCH IT COPPER, HE WON'T DARE TO SHOOT AS LONG AS I CAN HOLD ON TO YOU!
OKAY YOU ASKED FOR THIS... THINK I WOULDN'T SHOOT?
OWW!
OWW... MY LEG YOU GUN CRAZY COPPER I'M BLEEDING!
WAS YOU OR I... SO I HAD TO USE AN OLD TRICK THEY TAUGHT US TO SHOOT AT THE LEGS WHEN CRIMINALS RUSH YOU.
LATER, BACK AT HEADQUARTERS...
WE'LL TALK, YEAH, AN' TELL YOU PLENTY, TOO! IT'S ALL PETE BENSTEE'S IDEA. HE SENT FOR US FROM CHICAGO. HE MASTERMINDED THE PROTECTION DEA! JUST GIVE US A BREAK
BREAK! YOU KNOW WHAT THE PENALTY FOR MURDER IS... I WON'T PROMISE YOU ANYTHING!
YOU DID A SWELL JOB WITH THOSE GANGSTERS. THEY'LL PAY THE FULL PENALTY DEMANDED BY LAW, AND YOUR DEA OF PUNCTURE PROOF TIRES SOUNDS GOOD. I'LL TRY MY BEST TO GET THEM.
SWELL CHIEF! IT'S SOMETHING THAT IS SURELY NEEDED AND JUST THINK... NO MORE FLATS TO FIX!
ON THE NEXT ISSUE, ADVENTURE AND CRIME AGAIN RIDE SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE RADIO PATROL
The END

CRIME AND JUSTICE

THE CASE OF THE OPENED VAULT

TEST YOUR WITS AGAINST A POLICE INSPECTOR WHO FINDS A CLUE TO SOLVE A BANK ROBBERY!


I SURE DON'T GET THIS, INSPECTOR. THERE ARE NO PRINTS OR ANYTHING - NOT A SINGLE CLUE /
IT LOOKS LIKE A PERFECT CRIME THIS TIME /
ALBERT TYLER

THIS IS NIGEL WHITUCKER, PRESIDENT OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL DEPOSIT BANK ON FOURTH AVENUE.... I WANT TO REPORT A BANK ROBBERY / THAT'S RIGHT, OFFICER - A ROBBERY / NOW GET OVER HERE AS SOON AS YOU CAN /

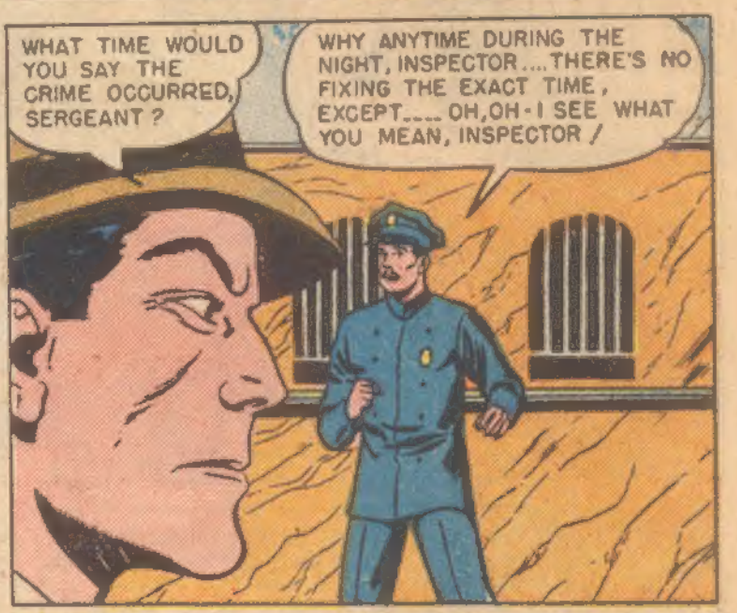
A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
MR WHITUCKER?
YES - YES / WON'T YOU COME IN? YOU'VE GOT TO EXCUSE ME IF I SEEM NERVOUS, BUT IT WAS A TERRIBLE SHOCK TO WALK IN THIS MORNING AND FIND THAT THE VAULT HAD BEEN LOOTED /
Save Now

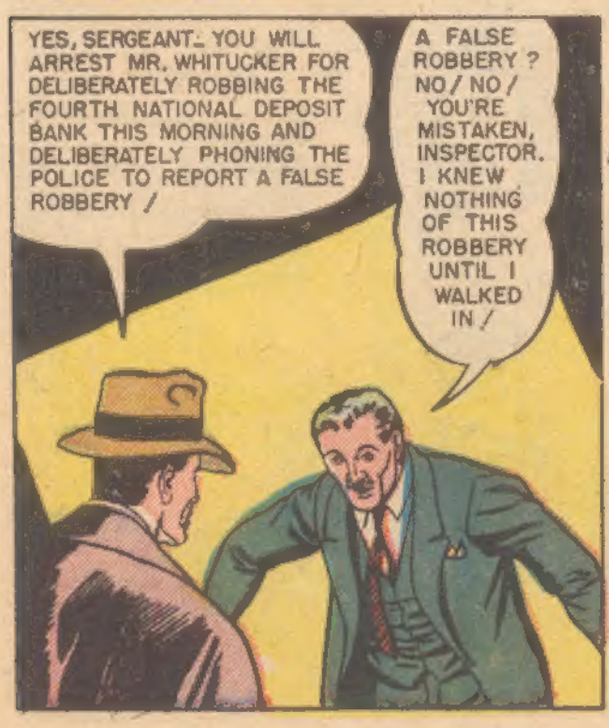
CRIME AND JUSTICE

AND LATER
WELL, SERGEANT. WHAT DID YOU FIND ?
SEEMS LIKE A REAL PROFESSIONAL JOB, INSPECTOR. THE ALARM WIRES WERE CUT, THE VAULT CLEANED OUT AND THERE'S NO FINGERPRINTS. I'LL KEEP CHECKING, BUT I DON'T THINK WE'LL FIND A SINGLE CLUE /

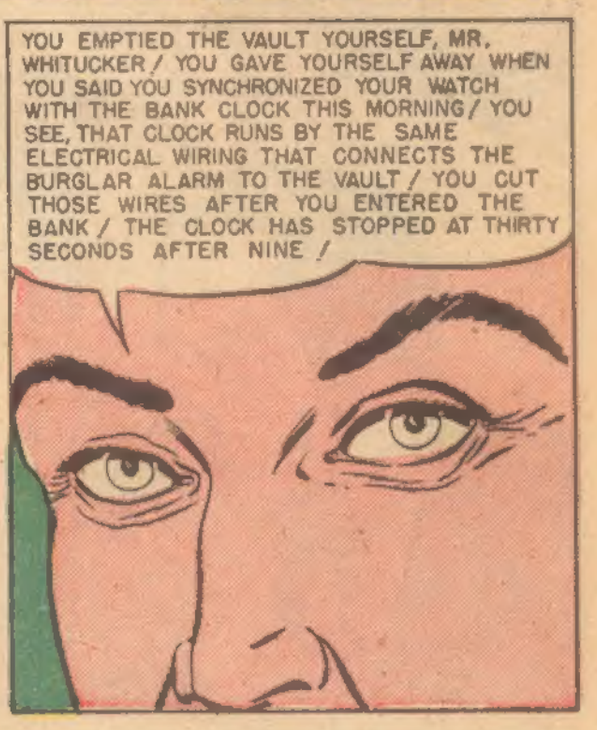
NOW LET ME CHECK THE CRIME WITH YOU, MR. WHITUCKER - YOU SAY YOU GOT IN AT NINE AS USUAL... DO YOU GET TO THE BANK AT NINE O'CLOCK SHARP EVERY MORNING ?
YES - YES - EVERY MORNING / THERE ARE THINGS TO DO SO THAT THE BANK CAN OPEN AT NINE - THIRTY. WHEN I GOT HERE THIS MORNING, I FOUND THE VAULT OPEN, JUST AS YOU FOUND IT. ALL THE BANK'S MONEY WAS GONE / I CALLED THE POLICE RIGHT AWAY....

I SEE / YOU MUST REALLY TRUST YOUR WRIST WATCH MR. WHITUCKER, TO TRUST ITS PUNCTUALITY EVERY MORNING. MY WATCH USUALLY GOES A LITTLE FAST OR SLOW....
WELL, I WOULD HARDLY TRUST TO THE MECHANISM OF MY WRIST WATCH, INSPECTOR. I SYNCHRONIZE MY WATCH WITH THE BANK CLOCK EVERY MORNING. THAT'S HOW I KNEW I GOT HERE AT NINE PUNCTUALLY. I CALLED YOU AT ONE MINUTE AFTER NINE /

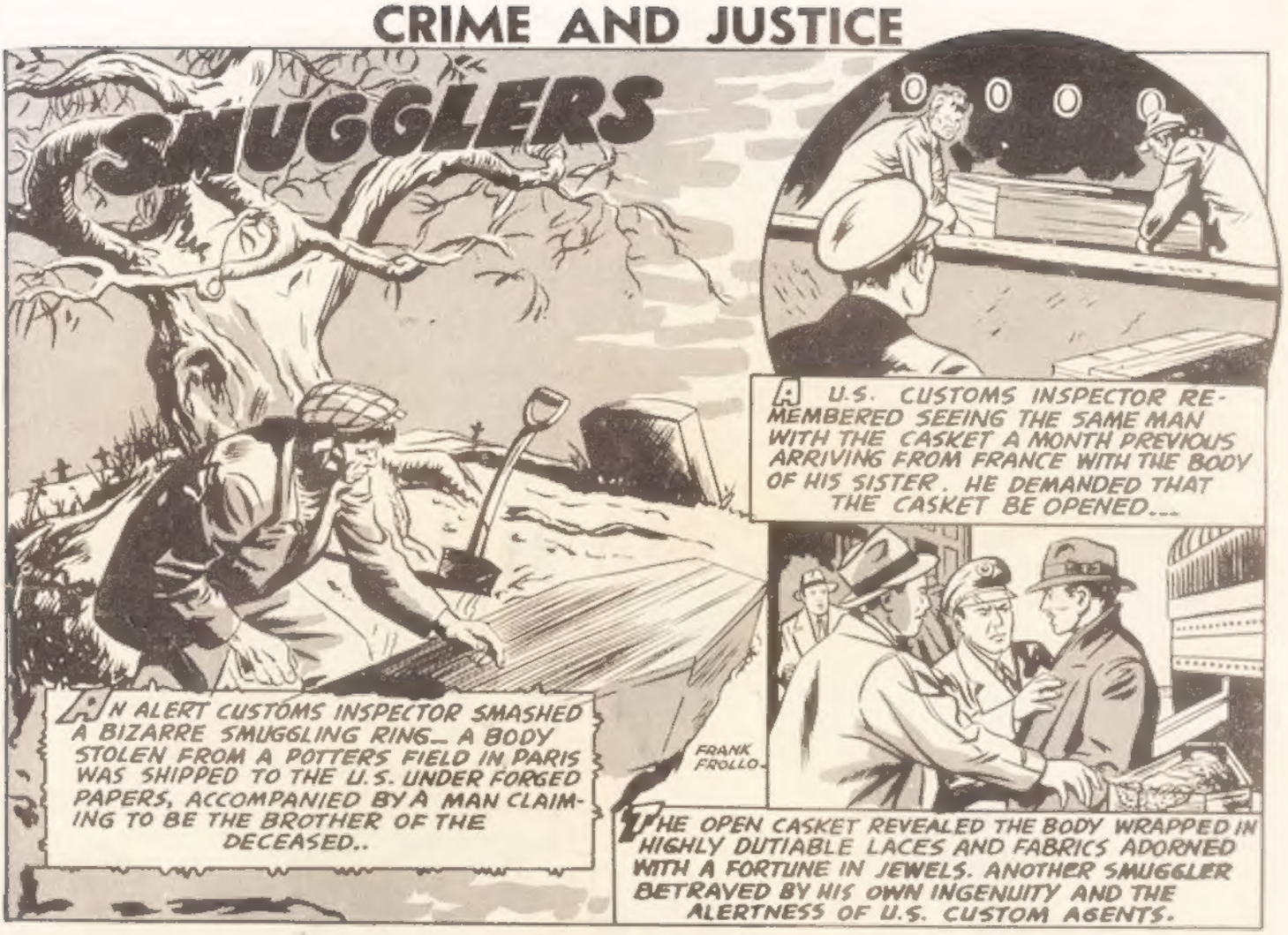

WHAT TIME WOULD YOU SAY THE CRIME OCCURRED, SERGEANT ?
WHY ANYTIME DURING THE NIGHT, INSPECTOR.... THERE'S NO FIXING THE EXACT TIME, EXCEPT.... OH, OH - I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN, INSPECTOR /


YES, SERGEANT - YOU WILL ARREST MR. WHITUCKER FOR DELIBERATELY ROBBING THE FOURTH NATIONAL DEPOSIT BANK THIS MORNING AND DELIBERATELY PHONING THE POLICE TO REPORT A FALSE ROBBERY /
A FALSE ROBBERY ? NO / NO / YOU'RE MISTAKEN, INSPECTOR. I KNEW NOTHING OF THIS ROBBERY UNTIL I WALKED IN /

HAVE YOU DETECTED THE CLUE THAT CAUSED THE INSPECTOR TO DEMAND MR. WHITUCKER'S ARREST ? IF SO, CHECK YOUR FACTS WITH THE SOLUTION OF THE CASE ----------


YOU EMPTIED THE VAULT YOURSELF, MR. WHITUCKER / YOU GAVE YOURSELF AWAY WHEN YOU SAID YOU SYNCHRONIZED YOUR WATCH WITH THE BANK CLOCK THIS MORNING / YOU SEE, THAT CLOCK RUNS BY THE SAME ELECTRICAL WIRING THAT CONNECTS THE BURGLAR ALARM TO THE VAULT / YOU CUT THOSE WIRES AFTER YOU ENTERED THE BANK / THE CLOCK HAS STOPPED AT THIRTY SECONDS AFTER NINE /

CRIME AND JUSTICE


SMUGGLERS
AN ALERT CUSTOMS INSPECTOR SMASHED A BIZARRE SMUGGLING RING... A BODY STOLEN FROM A POTTERS FIELD IN PARIS WAS SHIPPED TO THE U.S. UNDER FORGED PAPERS, ACCOMPANIED BY A MAN CLAIMING TO BE THE BROTHER OF THE DECEASED..
FRANK FROLLO
U.S. CUSTOMS INSPECTOR REMEMBERED SEEING THE SAME MAN WITH THE CASKET A MONTH PREVIOUS ARRIVING FROM FRANCE WITH THE BODY OF HIS SISTER. HE DEMANDED THAT THE CASKET BE OPENED...
THE OPEN CASKET REVEALED THE BODY WRAPPED IN HIGHLY DUTIABLE LACES AND FABRICS ADORNED WITH A FORTUNE IN JEWELS. ANOTHER SMUGGLER BETRAYED BY HIS OWN INGENUITY AND THE ALERTNESS OF U.S. CUSTOM AGENTS.

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